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Behind the spy trials

Peter Deneyka—the little man who *WAS* there

By Cedric Belfrage

MORE than a year ago, authoritative U. S. spokesmen announced "Operation X"—a program of underground activity (spying, bribery, sabotage and assassination) in Eastern Europe. Today the complicity in such activities of a number of Catholic and Protestant clerics in Hungary and Bulgaria, who have confessed in open court, is being authoritatively denied.

Last week the appearance—and immediate disappearance—of an American name in reports of the Bulgarian clerics' trial seemed to throw a shaft of light into the murk.

Mitko Dimitrov, a Bulgarian Baptist pastor, named "Peter Deneka" of Chicago as an American missionary from whom he had received a $1,200 bribe. The New York Sun, which carried the AP story, said it had checked with leading Baptists in Chicago who said: "There never has been a Peter Deneka . . . this appears to be another fabrication of the Bulgarian Communist Party."

MISSION TO SLAVS. Peter Deyneka is not a fabrication.

He is the head of the Russian Gospel Assn., Inc., which gives its address as 64 West Randolph St., Chicago, with a Toronto, Canada, office at 14 Park Rd.

The purpose of the Russian Gospel Assn. is to bring "Christ" to Russians and Slavs wherever they may be found and approached. It claims to be evangelizing among Slavs in France, Belgium, Germany, Argentina, British Columbia, Alaska and the Aleutian Islands, but places chief emphasis on its work in Poland, Yugoslavia and Bulgaria.

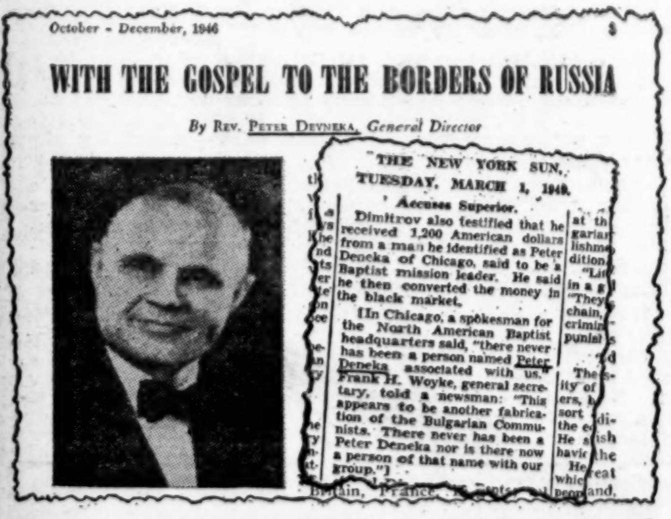
"SO GLAD." It wants to get into the Soviet Union, but only during one period was able to do so. That was during the Nazi occupation of western Russia, when, according to the association's Rev. Alex Nichiporuk, "a great revival broke out. ... There were villages where all the people accepted Christ as Savior."

Rev. Nichiporuk, who had to depart hurriedly when the Red Army returned, afterwards reported to the Association in matter-of-fact style: "The Jews were killed in masses ... Those who were covering up the bodies witnessed that the ground was still moving, since many were not killed but just wounded." His sole comment at the conclusion: "I am so glad that we not only witnessed to the Russians and Polish before the war broke out, but also to the Jews."

Writing in the Missionary Digest in November, 1946, Deyneka described the work of "preparing" Russian and Ukrainian missionaries through "Russian Bible Institutes" in Toronto and in Argentina, to go and spread the word in Poland, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia and Macedonia where the Association planned "great missionary work."

NICE FRIENDS. In January, 1947, during a visit home from his labors in Europe, Deyneka addressed the workers at the Peoria, Ill., plant of R. G. LeTourneau, the industrialist who fights labor unions on the ground that he is "a partner with God" and striking against God is a sin. He also addressed a rally of the implicitly anti-Semitic "Youth for Christ" in Peoria.

Deyneka is linked with the leading "Protestant Christian" groups of American fascists and anti-Semites through an arrangement for exchange of mailing lists. A postcard request for tracts to Rev. Arthur D. Hamilton of the Bronx, N. Y., produces literature from Deyneka's and other "Missions to Russians" organizations and, among hundreds of others, from Gerald Winrod of Kansas (indicted for sedition during the war), Harvey Springer of Denver, and W. D. Herrstrom of Minneapolis.



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WITH THE GOSPEL TO THE BORDERS OF RUSSIA

By Rev. Peter Deyneka, General Director

THE NEW YORK SUN, TUESDAY, MARCH 1, 1949.

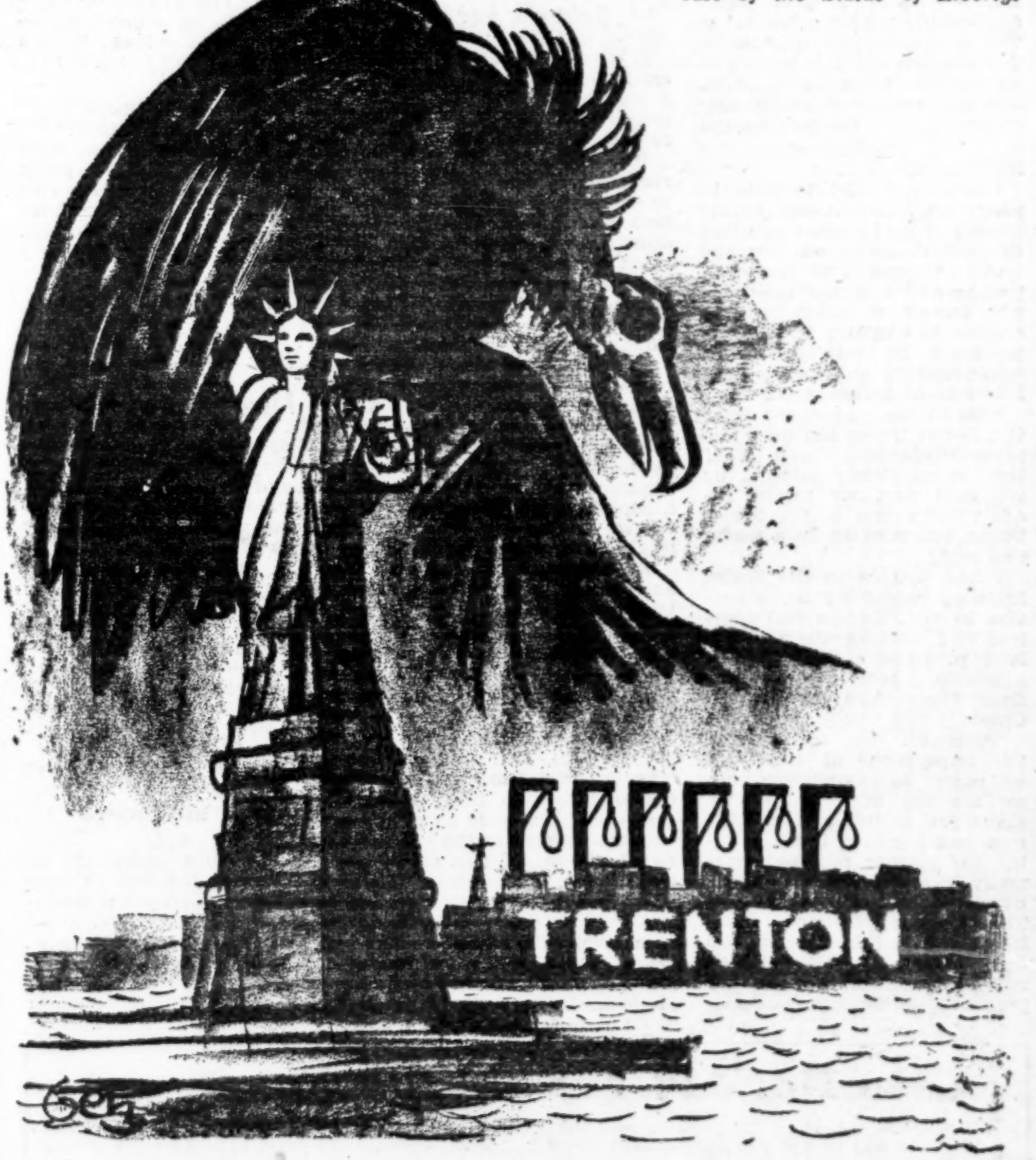
Accuses Superior.

Dimitrov also testified that he received 1,200 American dollars from a man he identified as Peter Deneka of Chicago, said to be a Baptist mission leader. He said he then converted the money in the black market.

[In Chicago, a spokesman for the North American Baptist headquarters said, "there never has been a person named Peter Deneka associated with us." Frank H. Woyke, general secretary, told a newsman: "This appears to be another fabrication of the Bulgarian Communists. There never has been a Peter Deneka nor is there now a person of that name with our group."]

"Give me your tired, your poor,
Your huddled masses yearning to breath free.
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore.
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me,
I lift my lamp beside the golden door!"

From "The New Colossus," the poem by Emma Lazarus inscribed on the base of the Statue of Liberty.



The press blackout on the Trenton case

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The scandal of New York's relief policy

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Henry Wallace: 'My Stand on Communism'

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THE MAILBAG

On Miss Strong

SACRAMENTO, CALIF.

I hope you have an article by Anna Louise Strong soon. I simply cannot believe that she is a spy as charged.

Jack Wood

•

NEW YORK, N.Y.

The Anna Louise Strong incident demonstrates, more than anything else, that the cold war must be stopped if the world wishes to retain its reason and sanity. I believe that her statement to reporters as she alighted from her plane was a masterpiece of wisdom and courage which helped clear away some of this war hysteria. She is a great and remarkable woman.

Gregory Varhol

•

NEW YORK, N.Y.

I am very glad to note in your story on Anna Louise Strong (Feb. 28) that you had decided to strike out for the truth as opposed to finding a person guilty before the facts are known or they have a chance to explain. Your independence in this matter is commendable and in the best interests of a free press.

Miss Strong's expulsion from the Soviet Union indicates the misunderstanding and fear that is needlessly invoked by the cold war. My recent request for a visa to the Soviet Union has resulted in a negative reply.

I had written to the Soviet Embassy explaining my intention to visit Europe this summer and advising them of my long progressive record. After a month, I received this reply from their Consular Division Chief:

"Although we comprehend the importance of this visit we regret to inform you that we are not in a position to assist you in this matter. Persons desiring to visit our country for private purposes normally have to enter the Soviet Union as tourists through the Travel Agency 'Intourist.' During the war this organization discontinued its work and has not resumed it up to the present time. Thus, private citizens' trips will become possible after the Intourist Agency resumes its functions."

The GUARDIAN recently editorially asked for a closer exchange of students, artists, etc. between this country and the U.S.S.R. to aid in understanding and world peace. My own attempt to do so has (to this point) been rebuffed. I note, however, that several Soviet artists are coming to this country. How can we make it mutual?

(Name withheld)

•

Schools for all

MUNCIE, IND.

If the American people are really in earnest about finding a way to provide schools and teachers for the many millions of children for whom we have neither just now, Harold Ickes' recent suggestion seems made to order for us. That suggestion is that the royalties accruing to the Federal government from tidelands oil under the recent ruling of the Supreme Court in the California case be placed in an educational reserve.

The estimated amount in royalties from the California coastal fields alone is $27,000,000,000. If to that sum could be added funds from other tideland oil reserves (the Supreme Court is now studying a case involving Texas coastal oil) we could assure every child in the U. S. a sound schooling.

We seem to find unlimited amounts of money, energy and blood to spend on war. What a wonderful contribution to world peace could be made in this matter of education.

E. Reed

•

Objection

NEW YORK, N.Y.

We would like to make known our objection to the cartoon, reprinted from **El Popular,** which appeared in the GUARDIAN of Jan. 31. This cartoon, otherwise laudable for its anti-imperialist content, depicts Uncle Sam (i.e. Wall Street) as a "typical" stereotyped Jew.

We do not quibble with Shakespeare who synthesized Shylock from previous folk-material. He was merely reflecting the truth that the hypocritical attitude of a merchant class, which adhered—for itself—to the doctrine of the Established Church, had created the Jewish usurer.

But history moves, times change and the former truth became a vile slander benefiting only the white "Christian" ruling class. Combined with a caricature it became national chauvinism, which we are shocked to see endorsed in **El Popular** and our GUARDIAN.

Tara Stewart
Herb Sichel

Racial and national prejudice, as any reader will note, is anathema to GUARDIAN's editors. But a re-check on the cartoon in question indicates that the writers of the letter above have a point. The picture of Uncle Sam could be objectionable—however unintentional. We are glad to print this letter. Ed.

•

"On the beam"

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

We enclose $25 for your splendid publication. The paper is on the beam and deserves the support of all progressives in and out of trade unions. We like your style, objectivity and incisive reportage.

Richard Lynden
Secretary-Treasurer
Warehouse Union
Local 6 (CIO)

•

Light in the dark

WEST LIBERTY, IOWA

I appreciate the GUARDIAN for its throwing the light on some of the dark and unknown aspects of our national life, for its sharp criticism of the men who parade as great leaders or patriots, but who really are traitors to the people's cause. Also very enjoyable are your witty cartoons and the humorous and satirical articles such as James Dugan writes. Scholars such as Frederick L. Schuman also make very significant contributions.

Lester H. Bill
Pastor, The Methodist Church

•

Fine nightmare

NEW YORK, N.Y.

Ida Scheib's nightmare on page one of the Feb. 14 issue was great. I suppose the Russophobes wouldn't comprehend it, but I wish they could see it. Hit them hard with what they can't refute in any respect.

Richard L. Porter

Case No. 617 and the Loyalty Board

TORRANCE, CALIF.

I WOULD like to ask you for a little help in this hour of need. On Feb. 23, I had to appear in Los Angeles before a Loyalty Board, Case 617, for a hearing.

I am a mail carrier in Torrance, Calif., Post Office. I have been in the postal service for almost 20 years. I am also a World War II veteran. I served in Hq. Co., 3rd Bn., 351st Inf., 88th Division for over three years. We were 16 months in combat. I possess the Combat Infantry Badge and 3 battle stars. No court martials and I have an honorable discharge.

After serving my country in peace and in war I am facing probable unemployment and, of course, starvation. Over a thousand postal employees have been victimized for being "subversive characters." No one knows how many have been fired or suspended. These men and women have been active in the different postal unions and the department considers it a subversive activity.

THE unions have kept mum about this iniquity because their leaders are unscrupulous politicians and racketeers. They are working hand in glove with the most anti-social elements in the department. The public has been kept ignorant of the intolerable working conditions, the speed up, the corruption and the nepotism. The civil service was thrown in the garbage can long ago.

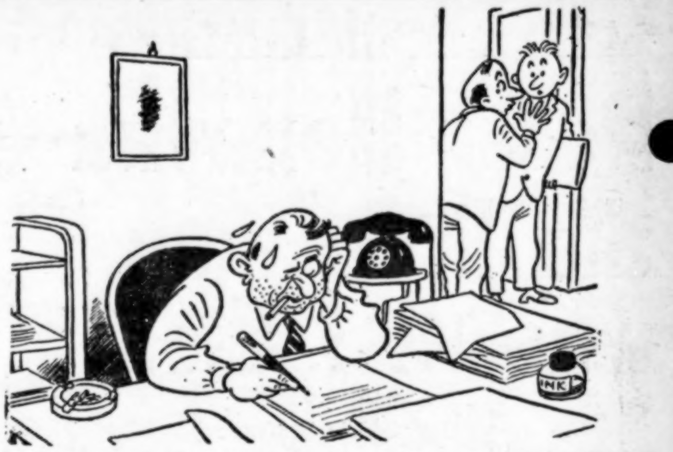
Today I am 43 years old and it is the first time in my life that I have had to appear before a court.

I believe the proceedings were unfair, to say the least. Among the innumerable charges, the only one that I had to admit was that I belonged and did active work in the Communist Party over 10 years ago. We went to war to make this world safe for democracy but instead we have built a Frankenstein monster that is generally destroying all our liberties. The time is not distant when this great nation of ours will be a large concentration camp.

Most of the victims are Negroes, Jews, and members of other minorities. I am Puerto-Rican born.

THE public should write protests to the Postmaster General, Washington, D.C. The books should be forced to be opened and the men and women who have been fired should be re-instated pronto. The public should help and support the active members in the different unions in their attempt to do some housecleaning. The politicians and racketeers must go.

Laureano J. Gonzalez



Vie Nuove, Rome

"Don't disturb him, he's exhausted. In the last three days he's written the memoirs of an official who escaped the Red Hell; the recollections of Il Duce's wife; and he's now writing the life of a spaghetti baron who gave up 500,000 acres for a tomato patch and freedom in New Jersey."

Report to readers

Trenton and the press

EARLY last October, when the staff of NATIONAL GUARDIAN was preparing material for our first issue, a reporter named William A. Reuben brought the case of the Trenton Six to our attention. **[See latest report on Page 3].**

Naturally, there were a lot of questions to be answered, additional facts to be obtained, before the GUARDIAN could break into print with the story. William Reuben was assigned to dig up these additional facts, to interview the families of the condemned men, the witnesses on whose testimony their alibis depended, the jurors, prison officials, lawyers, etc.

REUBEN's first report, after a week of assembling the background of the case, confirmed a considerable part of his contention that the Trenton Six were being railroaded to the death chamber by police and a justice system which did not hesitate to use human life and jimcrow prejudice for the purposes of machine politics.

In our issue of October 25, NATIONAL GUARDIAN printed these first findings in the Trenton case. Because of the obvious similarities between the Trenton case and one in jimcrow Alabama more than a decade earlier, we obtained and reprinted artist Hugo Gellert's stirring protest posters of the famous Scottsboro case. The Trenton affair thenceforth became the "Northern Scottsboro Case."

WEEK after week, NATIONAL GUARDIAN printed new findings in the Trenton case. The commercial press remained silent.

Eventually, newspapers in London and Paris picked up and reprinted some of William A. Reuben's GUARDIAN stories. When this happened, details of the case began to sift back into the U. S. via the American press services. The only effect was to stimulate editorial attack on the condemned men and their families in the New Jersey press.

NOW a great mobilization is growing around the Trenton case. Yet the American press by and large still remains silent.

All American communities have newspapers and radio stations served by the big press services — AP, UP, INS. Have they received information about the Trenton case? Have they published anything about it? If not, why not?

You — Mr., Mrs. and Miss GUARDIAN Reader — can be the means of bringing news of the Trenton case to the public in your community. Every community is concerned.

EVEN a penny postcard will do the trick — something along these lines:

> "Arthur Gaeth and Drew Pearson report that the State of New Jersey is about to execute six Negroes for a murder they did not commit. They report that this Northern Scottsboro Case has received virtually no attention in the American press. Will you obtain full information on this case and bring it to public attention in our community?"

If you like, you can include the name of one publication which has printed full details of the Trenton Scottsboro Case, virtually every week from our second issue to date. It may be that NATIONAL GUARDIAN can give AP, UP and INS some pointers on the Trenton story.

John T. McManus

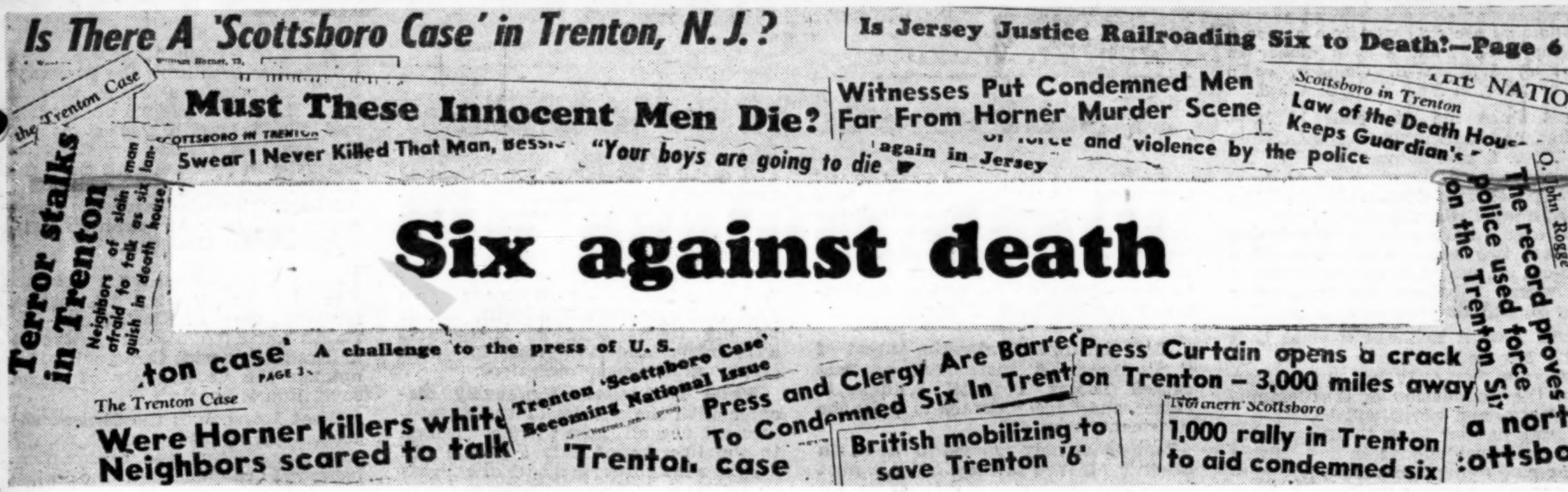
Editors of NATIONAL GUARDIAN:
17 Murray St., N. Y. 7, N. Y.
I want to become a Guardian Associate.

☐ **I enclose $25.**

☐ **I pledge $25, advancing $ . . . now, the remainder to be contributed at my convenience.**

Name ....

Address ....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Swear I Never Killed That Man,
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and violence by the police
Terror stalks in Trenton
Neighbors of slain man afraid to talk as six languish in death house
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The Trenton Case
Were Horner killers white
Neighbors scared to talk
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British mobilizing to save Trenton '6'
Northern Scottsboro
1,000 rally in Trenton to aid condemned six
a north
Scottsboro

Six against death

IT was Aug. 6, 1948. It was a hot night. At midnight the jury had been out nearly eight hours. At one o'clock in the morning they came in with the one-word verdict: Guilty.

The trial had lasted 55 days through the midsummer heat. The judge was tired. He droned: "The judgment and sentence of this court is that you . . . each of you suffer the punishment of death at the place and in the manner provided by law . . . and may God have mercy upon your souls."

The six Negro prisoners were led away to the death house in the capital city in the sovereign State of New Jersey.

DEATH ROW. For more than seven months now the six have lived in cells that look out upon a door a few feet away. Beyond the door is death.

They see it even at night, for on Death Row the lights are never turned off. They have watched other men go through the door. When the switch is thrown the lights go dim for a time.

Once a month, for 20 minutes, three of the prisoners are visited by relatives. The other three have no relatives in the North; no one visits them. It has been a long time since they have seen a friendly face. They see nothing but the door. Yet they can still look beyond it.

One of them said: "I'll never lose hope till that door closes behind me."

Last week O. John Rogge, former Assistant U. S. Attorney General, filed a brief in behalf of three of the prisoners asking a reversal of the conviction for all six. The case will probably be argued before the New Jersey State Supreme Court some time in April.

THE CRIME. At about 10:30 on the morning of Jan. 27, 1948, the street door to a dark and untidy junkshop at 213 North Broad St. opened and a 59-year-old woman with blood running down her face called for help. She had been struck on the head.

In the back of the junkshop, stacked to the ceiling with a ragbag collection of second-hand goods, police found the proprietor, William Horner, 72, with a fractured skull. He was the common-law husband of the wounded woman, Elizabeth McGuire. In his pockets they found $1,642.

Later that day he died. But before noon a general police alarm was out for the apprehension of "two colored men."

THE VICTIMS. At that hour on that morning the men now in Death Row at Trenton were doing these things:

McKinley Forrest was working at his job as a chicken picker at the Liberty Meat Market owned by Isaac Katzeff.

John McKenzie worked all that day as a chicken picker at the Community Slaughterhouse.

• **Horace Wilson** was at work loading trucks in the warehouse of Edward Dilatush & Co.

Collis English, brother-in-law of Forrest, worked all morning at home helping his mother do a washing. At about the time the murder was committed he was cashing a check for disability compensation: in the Navy he had contracted malaria and a weakened heart.

Ralph Cooper spent the entire morning at the home of George and Rubie English. At about the time the murder was committed he was talking to a mailman there who had delivered a package.

James Thorpe couldn't do much that morning: a week before, he was released from a hospital where one of his arms had been amputated. He spent most of the day watching his father and uncle repair the family car in front of his father's house.

THE INQUISITION. What happened to them next is described in Rogge's brief. They suffered through "five strained, intolerable, long nights and days." They "were questioned hour upon hour, day after night, for an improperly extended period of time without respite, except such as was required by the police inquisitors because of the exhausting nature of their own exertions.

"The police of Trenton, under the leadership of Captain Delate and Chief Naples, ceaselessly and inexorably maintained a round-the-clock questioning. . . . The constant and perpetual relay began at about 8 o'clock on the evening of Feb. 6 and continued for five nights and four days until the early morning hours of Feb. 11, the day when the defendants were formally charged with the crime of murder. . . .

"There is disputed but substantial evidence of coercion, violence, psychological pressure, use of drugs, threats, promises, deceit and a show of force."

NO IDENTIFICATION. In open court the defendants repudiated the confessions obtained by these means, but the prosecution presented no other evidence of guilt. The Rogge brief says: "Except for these confessions, the State of New Jersey failed to adduce any other influential proof of guilt, direct or circumstantial, save pictures of the dead man and the medical testimony confirming the death."

The defendants were not identified. "Three witnesses were called by the State in an effort to place the defendants at or near No. 213 North Broad St. at 10:30 on the morning of Jan. 27, 1948. Two of them flatly declared that they could not associate the faces of the defendants with the persons whom they had observed on the day and hour in issue. . . . The third, Elizabeth McGuire, even if believed, provided such unacceptable identification as to render what she had to say on the subject of minor consequence. . . ."

For nearly a year a curtain of silence has been drawn around the Trenton case. The GUARDIAN was the first U. S. publication to expose it as a "Northern Scottsboro Case"—for months the only one to report it.

Six American citizens had been condemned to death on confessions drawn from them by violence and repudiated in court. The U. S. press ignored it. Editors were too busy reporting and speculating on "confession trials" in Europe. They were indignant about the injustice done to a Hungarian Cardinal who confessed in open court in the presence of the world press.

EUROPE KNOWS. But if the curtain of silence shielded Americans from the shock of this ugly truth in Trenton, N.J., it failed to keep the matter from the attention of Europeans. In England and France and other countries many newspapers reprinted GUARDIAN's reports of the case. Today U. S. declarations of moral leadership in world affairs are being judged against this example of America's contemptuous treatment of her Negro citizens.

Today, for the first time in history, lawyers from foreign countries are in the United States to observe and report on the state of American justice. They are delegates from British, French, Cuban and Phillippine affiliates of the International Assn. of Democratic Lawyers, the only international legal body officially connected (as consultant to the Economic and Social Council) with the United Nations.

TOLD NEW YORKERS. All four of the visiting lawyers came to observe and report on the trial of the 11 Communist leaders—their organizations being gravely concerned about prosecutions based on statutes which make mere advocacy of a political doctrine a crime.

One of the lawyers, Ronald H. T. Whitty of the Haldane Society (organization of British Labor Party lawyers headed by Sir Stafford Cripps), was instructed to report on the Trenton case. The other three, who have become keenly interested since their arrival, will also report back on it.

Last week Whitty expressed amazement at the lack of knowledge about the case in this country. "It is far better known in England than it is here," he said. "I had to tell people in New York what it was all about. What I've learned about it since I've been here supports the original story of injustice that appeared in **Reynolds News.**"

Reynolds News is an influential British weekly which published a full report on the Trenton Six by GUARDIAN's William A. Reuben.

TRUTH SNOWBALL. The Civil Rights Congress entered the arena some months ago and is fighting with all it has. A Committee to Save the Trenton Six was formed with Paul Robeson at its head. The National Lawyers Guild and the National Assn. for the Advancement of Colored People have announced they will file friend-of-the-court briefs with the New Jersey Supreme Court.

Last week Arthur Garfield Hays of the American Civil Liberties Union told GUARDIAN that ACLU would also file such a brief. The New Jersey State CIO has adopted a resolution denouncing the death sentence.

Gradually the U. S. curtain of silence on the Trenton case has begun to lift. **Federated Press,** serving trade union publications, and the Communist Party's **Daily Worker** took up and published the story. On Feb. 6 the first big commercial daily reported the case fully—the New York **Post Home News.** Radio commentator Arthur Gaeth, sponsored by the United Electrical Workers (CIO), talked about it on his ABC program. Then Drew Pearson on his regular Sunday broadcast congratulated Gaeth for breaking the story on the air and repeated the essential facts.

Several thousands had heard about it originally from GUARDIAN. Now ten million heard about it from these two commentators. Yet when Attorney John Rogge invited the whole press to a conference after the Pearson broadcast, only the **Daily Worker,** the **Morning Freiheit,** the **Newark Evening News, The Nation,** a Sarah Lawrence College paper and GUARDIAN bothered to send reporters.

MOVING ON. From small beginnings, the case is growing into a national and international issue. All the great power of silence of the American free press is not prevailing.

As Paul Robeson, now in England on a concert tour, told **Reynolds News** there: "Now the progressive forces are beginning to move to stop this crime."

At the top of this page: a montage of GUARDIAN headlines on the Trenton case.

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Henry A. Wallace

A statement of principles

Following are excerpts from a speech by Henry A. Wallace at a dinner in honor of William S. Gailmor, radio commentator, in New York, March 3.

EVER since the war ended I have preached understanding with Russia. . . . I said it was possible for progressive capitalism in the U.S. to live at peace with Communism in Eastern Europe. I still think so.

But events have taken a turn during the past two weeks which demand a clear-cut statement as to where I stand and where I believe the Progressive Party should stand.

FIRST I want to make it clear that the Progressive Party is **not** the Communist Party. It has never been under the domination of the Communist Party—and never will be.

Second, neither I nor the Progressive Party will ever engage in red-baiting or war-mongering. We believe it is possible to build a bridge between the East and the West and we shall fight against those who would tear down that bridge.

Third, our opposition to the Truman Doctrine, the ERP, the Atlantic Pact, Universal Military Training and increased military expenditures continues stronger than ever.

We recognize no foreign guide to our conscience or action, whether that guide comes from London, Paris, Rome or Moscow. As peace-loving Americans we deplore all actions, whether from the right or the left, which increase tensions—build up militarism and increase the likelihood of war.

I CAN understand why the threat of the North Atlantic Military Pact caused Thorez, Togliatti, William Z. Foster, and Eugene Dennis to make the statements they did.

I am as strongly opposed to the North Atlantic Alliance as they, but I cannot agree that their recent statements are the way to fight against and organize the opposition to this new and most dangerous intensification of the cold war policy. I believe the world needs less friction today—not more.

I am glad they want to "work with all those who seek peace, democracy and social progress." But I am not in accord with their recent statements because in my opinion they will not contribute to "peace, democracy and social progress."

On the contrary, the reactionaries will seize upon these statements as a pretext for more witch-hunts, to stir up the lowest kind of thoughtless chauvinism and to press for even greater military appropriations.

While I therefore thoroughly disagree with the wisdom of these statements, I and all those who are devoted to the liberties of a free people will defend with all our strength the rights of free speech, free assembly and free press for all Americans.

LET me make clear the spirit which animates me. It is a militant, fighting Christian spirit. Make no mistake about it. It is not the spirit of Bishop James P. DeWolfe of Long Island.

It is not the spirit of those Christians who are now cooperating with pro-war elements to overthrow the governments of those countries where they were born. If the confessions of Mindsze[illegible] and the Bulgarian Protestant mi[illegible]ters are true, I know my Christianity has little in common with their Christianity.

Missionaries who serve the cause of either British or American special privilege are not Christian.

IT is not impossible for a Communist to be a Christian, but it is impossible for any type of Christianity which stands for exploitation to arrive at an understanding with Communism. In my opinion the Christianity of decadent capitalism is hopeless.

What I preach is the Christianity of progressive capitalism which recognizes that imperialism and exploitation of backward peoples lead inevitably to destruction.

Between my kind of Christianity and my kind of progressive capitalism it is possible to build a bridge to the East which will avoid a war—a war no one can win, a war in which neither progressive capitalism nor communism would survive.

They just got tougher

Union wins victory for thousands of the needy

By Virginia Stevens

THE page one headline in the New York **Herald Tribune** of Feb. 18 said:

"Relief Sit-In? Hilliard Says No, Union Yes."

It looked for all the world like a not-too-unusual tug o' war between a government department head (Raymond Hilliard, Commissioner of Welfare) and a trade union (Local 1, United Public Workers, CIO). But behind the headline was a most unusual story—a story that involves not only the union members, but thousands of needy families in New York.

GET TOUGH. Last November Mr. Hilliard, imported from Chicago by Governor Dewey to be the new city welfare commissioner, announced a new "get tough" policy with relief clients. He ordered 90% of the case workers on to the job of reinvestigating the relief rolls. The other 10% were put to work on new applications for relief.

Investigators found themselves lost in a maze of paper work, rules and regulations—and deadlines impossible to meet.

Questionnaires had to be filled out by every one of the thousands of clients. Then a second form was sent out. If, for any reason, the client failed to return this form, he was summarily dropped from the rolls.

TIN BOX BOYS. The mail staff hired for this project was totally unprepared, union spokesmen say. "Stamps and forms were not even at hand when we were supposed to start. Moreover, these clerks were hired by the tin box and club house method—political appointees."

These people sent thousands of forms to wrong addresses. "One of my clients," said a union member, "was a tubercular. He had never received his second form and was automatically taken off relief because he failed to send it back."

Hilliard's deadline for the reinvestigation was May 15. Anyone not reinvestigated by that time would no longer be eligible for relief. This meant that 20% of all cases had to be covered each month. By Feb. 15 only 2% had been covered.

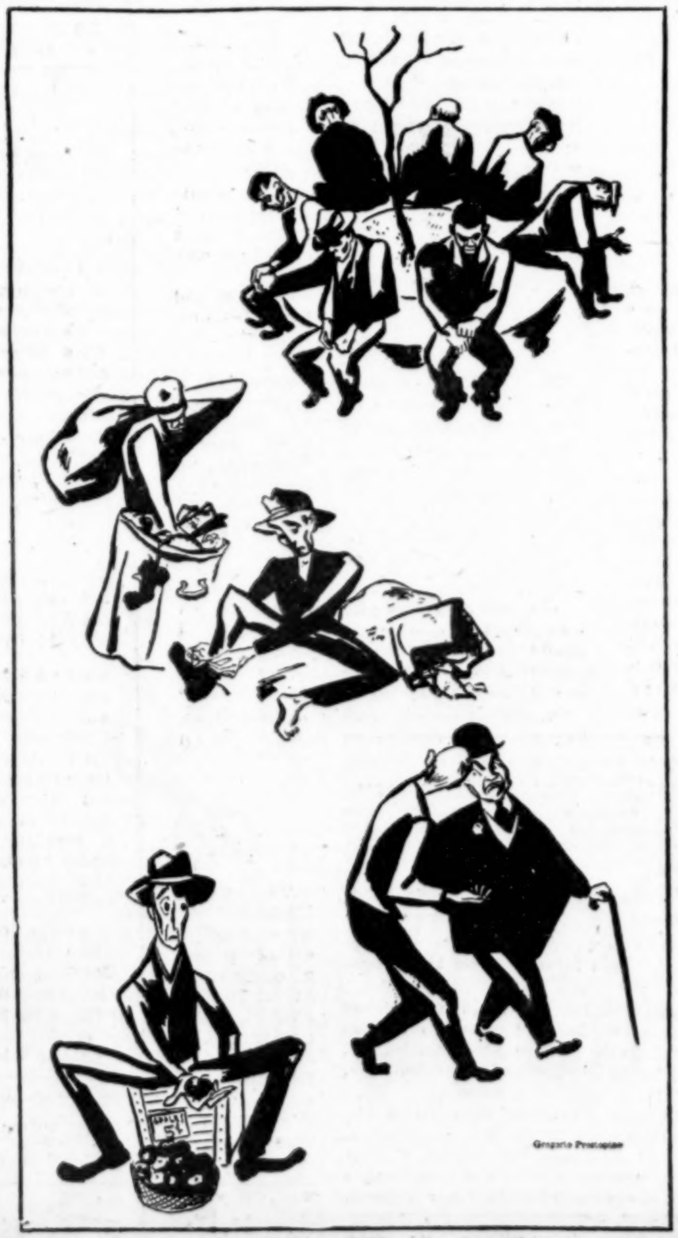
BEFORE XMAS. As winter wore on the job situation tightened. New applicants crowded into the already overcrowded welfare centers.

By February new applications average 3,000 a week. People waited—one week, two weeks, a month. The personnel assigned to the new applications was tragically inadequate.

The State law says that an applicant must be visited within 48 hours. Yet in mid-February there were applications pending from before Christmas.

There was no press outcry—in contrast to the clamor raised in the New York dailies two years ago about the "Lady in Mink." That was a phony about a woman who had been milking the city for months despite her lavish robes. When the story was debunked, none of the papers carried more than an inch or two.

On Feb. 1 the New York **Post Home News** finally broke the story. Then came a report by the New York City Youth Board's Bronx Pilot Project whose panel includes members of civic, church and educational groups. It was critical of Hilliard's new policy.



Lest we forget. Gregorio Prestopino

UPW Local 1 fought hard. It picketed the relief centers and took several mass grievance actions.

70% BELONG. Local 1 knows its power; 70% of the welfare workers in the city belong to it. On Feb. 17, the union decided, its members would stay at their desks from 5 p.m. (closing time) till midnight, in protest against the department's practices. Their demands were:

1. That new applications for relief be distributed among the entire staff.
2. That the deadline for reinvestigation of relief clie[illegible] already on the lists be extended.

"Hilliard didn't believe [illegible] would bring it off," says you[illegible] Frank Herbst, local president. "But on the morning of the 17th he must have been convinced that we meant business, for he issued a statement that pending cases were to be distributed from now on among all workers and the May 15 deadline was extended."

The union members stayed at their desks till 6 p.m. The papers indicated the protest was a failure; but they knew better. "We called off the demonstration at that token hour," says Herbst, "because Hilliard granted the two major demands. What's that if not a victory for the union?"

Mayor O'Dwyer publicly repudiated Hilliard's policy.

"TOO CONCERNED." But the armistice was short. On March 1 a union member was fired. The reason: "Too concerned with needs of client, not enough with eligibility." The Welfare Dept., Herbst says, is now getting "affidavits from rats" naming the leaders of the sit-in. The union is counter-attacking with demands for proper grievance machinery, reduction in case loads, salary increases. And it is fighting with 400 new members; they joined up during the battle.

Meanwhile applications pour into the welfare centers in ever-increasing numbers. With a hard-headed business man like Hilliard running the show, New York social workers are beginning to wonder whether the clients too should be organized.

The veterans remember [illegible] Workers Alliance that was bo[illegible] of the depression of the '30's and fought the good fight for the needy then.

...and found the body

These are some of Hilliard's victims. Their case histories are right out of the relief workers' books.

- **Anthony J.** Applied Nov. 5. Intake interview Nov. 9. Visited Nov. 17. Found to be critically ill. Died in Kings County Hospital, Nov. 19. **Case accepted as eligible Nov. 22.**
- **Frederick M.** World War II Vet. Applied for veteran's assistance Nov. 5. Never received a visit. Committed suicide Nov. 30. On Dec. 15 the investigator came and found that he was dead.
- **Alfred C.** Seaman until Feb., '47. Applied veteran's assistance, Nov., '47. Case closed Nov., '48. Told to reapply at Welfare Center. Reapplied, Nov. 22. On Dec. 2 told to get help from his son. Relationship with latter very poor. Dec. 8, cut his wrists, removed to Bellevue Hospital.

NEWS REVIEW OF THE WEEK

NATIONAL ROUNDUP

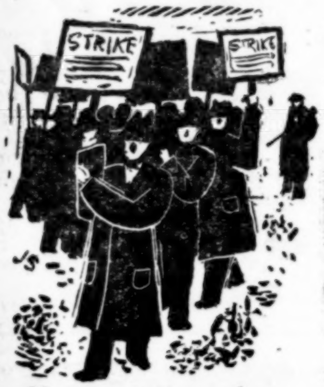
Economic X-Ray

ALL week long the President conferred with economists to determine whether the rumblings underneath the economy bespoke a depression or indicated only that the house was settling.

Inflation, deflation and dis-inflation were the terms used and many claimed that all three processes were operating at once in various parts of the economy. The cures varied with the diagnoses.

THE PRESCRIPTIONS. More taxes, less taxes; wage raises; wage cuts. They all were prescribed. In New York Leon H. Keyserling, vice chairman of the President's Council of Economic Advisers, spoke at a meeting of the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen (AFL). He said that wage reductions would be harmful and that the decline in the cost of living was slight so far and perhaps only temporary. In any case, he said, the sacrifice should come not out of wages but out of profits.

He warned: " 'Labor statesmen' is a fine-sounding expression. Too often it is used to mean that labor should make the sacrifice play first. I don't ask you to do that. I ask you to be good trade unionists, to be militant trade unionists in the best sense of the word."



Negro expression

BAROMETER. The view of Lester B. Granger, executive secretary of the National Urban League, was gloomier. He had a grim barometer. He knew that Negroes are always the first to feel hard times. He took a swing around the country and reported that, judging by what he saw, "our Negro population is already in the midst of a depression, even though the nation as a whole has not felt the shock." The Census Bureau reported that the nation's unemployed had jumped by 550,000 in February to a total of 3,200,000.

In San Francisco the CIO Council found that 40% of Negro men workers and 35% of Negro women workers were already unemployed. State Sen. Gerald O'Gara said: "We are moving toward a crash which can be avoided only by planning and foresight."

PROGRESSIVE PLANNERS. The National Committee of the Progressive Party met last week in New York. Secretary C. B. Baldwin said: "Events in recent weeks have indicated that the national economy, based upon a program of armament and cold war expenditures, rests on quicksand."

The Committee recommended: (1) Increase the minimum wage to $1 an hour and apply it to more workers. Present minimum wage is 40 cents. (2) Establish a program of public works and improve the Federal unemployment insurance program to give benefits of at least $35 a week for 52 weeks.

The Progressive Party staff was to study the possibility of reducing the 40-hour work week without a cut in pay. State organizations were called on to set up committees to help the unemployed obtain insurance or relief.

Filibuster frolic

THE talk on Capitol Hill was tougher than the performance. All week long the Southerners tied up the Senate in a filibuster to preserve their right to filibuster. With Walter George of Georgia and Tom Connally of Texas leading the oratory, the filibusterers had an easy time. Each day they talked from noon to six and felt no strain.

On Thursday the President demanded that the Senate revise its rules so that a simple majority (of Senators present and voting) could limit debate. A quorum consists of 49. so that the President's proposal would mean that as few as 26 could shut off debate.

That far exceeded any proposal to date. Majority Leader Scott Lucas (D-Ill.) had favored such a power for a "constitutional majority," meaning a majority of all Senators. The minimum required under such a ruling would be 49.

POSTPONED SHOWDOWN. Sen. Lucas was dismayed by the President's seeming militancy. He said: "I regret to be compelled to disagree with my chief." He had promised to file a petition invoking cloture on Thursday but postponed the showdown to Monday.

The Republicans who had been needling the Democrats on civil rights met in caucus and declined to rally as a party against the filibuster; action was left to individual members.

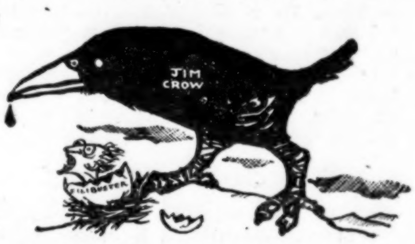
It looked as if the Southerners would be left undisturbed in their oratory.

Still jimcrow

THE TEST. The House provided a test. When the annual appropriation bill to run the District of Columbia came up, Rep. A. Clayton Powell (D-N.Y.) offered an amendment to ban segregation in the Capital's schools, health services and public projects. He challenged the civil rights proponents to prove that "they meant what they said during the campaign last fall."

Rep. Vito Marcantonio (ALP-N.Y.) backed the amendment. He said it would give the House its first opportunity to vote "on the campaign promises its members made on civil rights."

The Southerners roared to their feet. Republicans cooperated quietly. When a voice vote was taken, the press gallery estimated it as 106 against the amendment, 64 for. Jimcrow remained supreme in the nation's capital.



CYNICAL CRUSADERS. The cynics in Congress were using the civil rights issue for their own purposes. Sen. John W. Bricker (D-Ohio), spokesman for the real estate interests and an opponent of public housing, tried to tack a ban on segregation to the Senate housing bill. No one suspected him of being friendly to Negroes; the hope was for a filibuster to kill the whole measure. His amendment was defeated in committee, but he will offer it again from the Senate floor.

A similar strategy will be applied to the Administration labor bill.

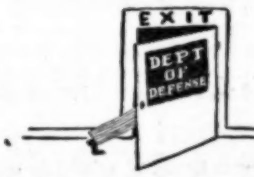
American's jimcrow system was defiling everything it touched. The poison went deep, and the cures weren't reaching.

Taft-Hartley delay

ALSO ON THE HILL. In Congress these things also happened last week:

- The House Labor Committee approved the President's Labor bill by a straight party vote of 8-5. The bill calls for repeal of Taft-Hartley and simultaneous amendments to the Wagner Act.
- The House voted to lift immigration bars which hitherto excluded most applications from Asiatics. At the same time it cut down immigration from the West Indies to 100 a year.
- The Joint Senate-House Economic Committee approved the President's legislative and economic program, but not with any enthusiasm. It did not endorse his demand for a $4,000,000 tax boost; avoided any stand on his request for authority to put the government in the steel businss; was weak on rent control, and price and wage curbs needed more study.
- House Republicans in caucus voted to work for a cut in excise taxes on such things as jewelry, luggage, furs, toilet goods and telephone bills.
- The House Ways and Means Committee began hearings on the President's social security legislation.
- Secretary of Labor Tobin filed his annual report endorsing the President's "Fair Deal" and calling for establishment of a Fair Employment Practices Commission.

Forrestal out



THE President's press conference on Thursday yielded two big pieces of news. Mr. Truman announced that he

Continued on following page

Washington spotlight

Vast U. S. espionage empire charted in hush-hush bill

By John B. Stone

WASHINGTON

SPONSORS of the so-called "wire-tapping" bill, giving the FBI the right to seize any personal communications under the pretext that they were involved in a security investigation, had run for temporary cover last week.

But a bill (H.R. 2663) whose implications for the democratic future of the U.S. are, if possible, even more deadly, was rolling along a secrecy-shrouded path towards speedy enactment. It would make of the Central Intelligence Agency, our super-duper spy organization, an invisible government with power to act and spend in violation of most established laws, and responsible only to the President.

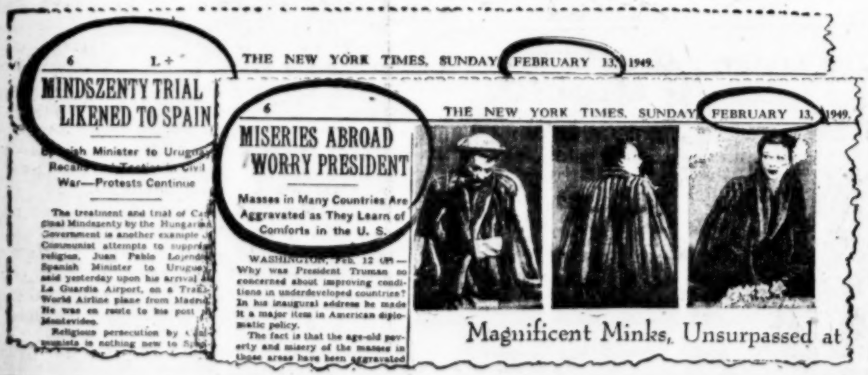
EMBARRASSING MOMENT. Attorney General Clark's wire-tapping bill was cleared for swift action by Chairman Pat McCarran (D-Nev.). Then someone resurrected from the **Congressional Record** the text of an old attack on wire-tapping made by Harry S. Truman when he was a Senator. Government witnesses suddenly became too busy to testify and hearings were postponed indefinitely.

In the meantime Chairman Carl Vinson (D-Ga.) of the House Armed Services Committee got committee approval, without public hearing or even a printed record, of H.R. 2663. The Rules Committee promised a rule on it by March 14, which would bring the measure to the House floor with debate limited to one hour.

THE PACKAGE. Here are some of the things it would do:

- Permit Central Intelligence agents to be assigned as spies in almost any organization anywhere in the world. Section 4(a) says: "Any officer or employee of the Agency may be assigned to detailed or special instruction, research or training, at or with domestic or foreign public or private institutions; trade, labor, agricultural, scinetific associations. . . ." The terms "instruction, research or training" would appear to cover all types of operations.
- Permit the CIA to spend its own funds or funds appropriated to other agencies without any accounting except a certificate that they were spent in the interest of national security. The agency would be exempted from all restrictions on the use of funds regardless of previous laws and appropriation measures involved. Effect would be to give CIA unlimited finances.
- Section 6(g) provides that "whenever the [CIA] Director and the Attorney General shall determine that the entry of a particular alien into the U.S. for permanent residence is in the interest of na-national security or essential to the furtherance of the national intelligence mission, such alien and his immediate family shall be given entry into the U. S. for permanent residence without regard to their inadmissability under the immigration or any other laws. . . ."
- Another section would shroud al personnel operations in absolute secrecy, by exempting the Agency from any existing laws "which require the publication or disclosure of the organization, functions, names, official titles, salaries or numbers of personel employed by the Agency."

YOUR correspondent has read somewhere that a world super-government of spies is an almost inevitable by-product of imperialism. H.R. 2663 would seem to prove it.



6 L+ THE NEW YORK TIMES, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1949.

MINDSZENTY TRIAL LIKENED TO SPAIN

6 THE NEW YORK TIMES, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1949.

MISERIES ABROAD WORRY PRESIDENT

Masses in Many Countries Are Aggravated as They Learn of Comforts in the U. S.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12 (UP)—Why was President Truman so concerned about improving conditions in underdeveloped countries? In his inaugural address he made it a major item in American diplomatic policy.

The fact is that the age-old poverty and misery of the masses in those areas have been aggravated

Magnificent Minks, Unsurpassed at

On Feb. 13 the "New York Times" in an early edition carried the story above about people abroad becoming aggravated when they heard about the comforts in the U. S. The story ran right smack against an ad for minks. That was too much even for the "Times" editors. For a later edition they substituted a story denouncing the Mindszenty trial. Mink was OK against that one.

NATIONAL ROUNDUP

Continued from preceding page.

was accepting the resignation of Secretary of Defense James Forrestal as of March 31. He said that Forrestal had been trying to resign for more than a year.

Taking over the job is Louis A. Johnson, 58, a wealthy lawyer and long-time politician of Clarksburg, W. Va., who is generally credited with having raised most of the funds for Mr. Truman's presidential campaign. In his career he has been Assistant Secretary of War, national exalted ruler of the Elks, president of Rotary, commander of the American Legion, Army captain in World War I and college wrestler.

(This was followed by announcement on Friday night that the Russians too had made a switch. Foreign Minister Vyacheslav Molotov was "relieved of his duties." Andrei Vyshinsky, Deputy Foreign Minister, was named to take his place.)

Top billing in headlines, however, went to a pregnant "no comment." The President was asked to say something about a declaration by Communist leaders William Z. Foster and Eugene Dennis.

The President said: "The question was whether I had any comment to make on what had been said by the Communist leaders of this country as to what they would do in case of attack by Russia. . . . I have no comment to make on such a statement by traitors."

Communist position

THE President had not read his newspapers very carefully. The New York Times had asked the Party leaders:

"What would be the attitude of American Communists if Soviet Russia should charge Canada with aggression, land an army there and pursue Canadian forces across the border of the U. S.?"

THE ANSWER. Foster and Dennis gave this answer: "If despite the efforts of the peace forces of America and the world, Wall Street should succeed in plunging the world into war, we would oppose it as an unjust, aggressive, imperialist war, as an undemocratic and an anti-socialist war, destructive of the deepest interests of the American people and all humanity."

The Communists had said as much on other occasions. Before them Socialist Eugene Debs had said: "When I say I am opposed to war, I mean ruling-class war, for it is the ruling class that makes war. . . . I refuse to obey any command to fight from the ruling class, but I will not wait to be commanded to fight for the working class."

Trial — new turn

THE timing of the declaration was significant; some thought it was unwise **[see Henry Wallace's comment, page 4.]**

For seven weeks the Communist leaders, charged with conspiracy to overthrow the Government by teaching Marxism, had tried to prove that the Federal jury system in New York discriminated against Jews, Negroes, the radical and the poor. They had cited official reports and produced statistics.

On Tuesday they brought to the witness stand Senior Judge John C. Knox, superior of the trial judge, Harold R. Medina. He admitted that he had instituted and upheld the system of handpicking juries.

On Friday Judge Medina said he thought the defense had failed to prove its point and ordered the trial to begin March 7.

Bishop's orders

ONE month ago the vestry of Holy Trinity Church in Brooklyn voted to remove the rector, John Howard Melish, 74. Dr. Melish had refused to disown the activities of his son and assistant rector, William Howard Melish, chairman of the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship, which the Attorney General has called subversive.

Last Wednesday Bishop James P. De Wolfe ordered both Melishes to leave their posts. The younger Melish said: "He might have waited at least until after Ash Wednesday." The elder Melish said: "I cannot withdraw from this fight as long as my congregation desires me to stay."

The parishioners were to meet March 7 on the question of retention of dismissal of the vestrymen who voted to remove the Melishes. Dr. Melish said he would let their decision guide his actions. More than 70% of the parishioners have joined the "Committee to Retain Our Rector."

No matter what the outcome for the Melishes might be, the whole question of the right of bishops to remove ministers regardless of the parishioners' wishes seemed certain to arouse stormy controversy at the General Convention of the Episcopal Church, due to meet next fall in San Francisco.

Grave diggers

FRANCIS CARDINAL SPELLMAN also was involved in a dispute last week.

Grave diggers at two cemeteries owned by St. Patrick's Cathedral have been on strike for several weeks. They are asking for higher wages. The strikers, members of the United Cemetery Workers, affiliated with the Food, Tobacco and Agricultural Workers, CIO, are seeking higher wages.

Last week the Cardinal declared that the strike was "immoral" because the men were affiliated with what he termed "a well known Communist-dominated union."

John Sheehan, attorney for the local, pointed out that the Cardinal had known of the union's affiliations before the strike began but he was nevertheless willing to sign with it at that time on the basis of a Cathedral offer. Communism, said Sheehan, was merely "a bargaining point." Joseph Manning, president of the local, charged the Cardinal with using a red herring.

Work of mercy

UP TO THE CARDINAL. Roger K. Larkin, executive secretary of the Assn. of Catholic Trade Unionists, which had supported the strike, admitted to GUARDIAN that his organization had differences with the Cardinal. He said: "We think they'll be composed." When he was asked "Who do you expect to give in?" Larkin said "I doubt that we'll give in."

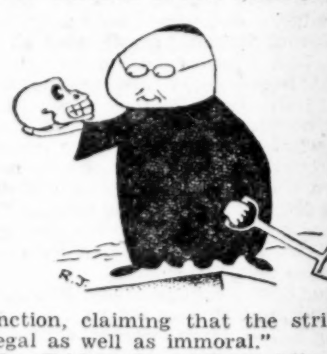
The only response GUARDIAN could elicit from top CIO officials was this from a spokesman in Washington: "It is traditional CIO policy to leave matters like that up to the international or the local."

ACTION. On Wednesday the Cardinal visited St. Joseph's Seminary at Dunwoodie, Yonkers. He asked for 100 volunteers for a "corporal work of mercy." On Thursday three busloads took the Cardinal and the Seminarians to Calvary Cemetery in Queens.

Two pickets at the gate touched their caps to the Cardinal, then resumed their picketing. Other strikers stood by and watched with bitterness. Inside the cemetery the Cardinal asked the assistant manager for orders. The Cardinal was ordered not to dig, but the Seminarians were given picks and shovels and put to work at the graves.

The Cardinal walked among the gravediggers.

The Cardinal is also seeking an injunction, claiming that the strike "is illegal as well as immoral."



On Friday the strikers "disavowed Communism" and voted to leave the F. T. A.

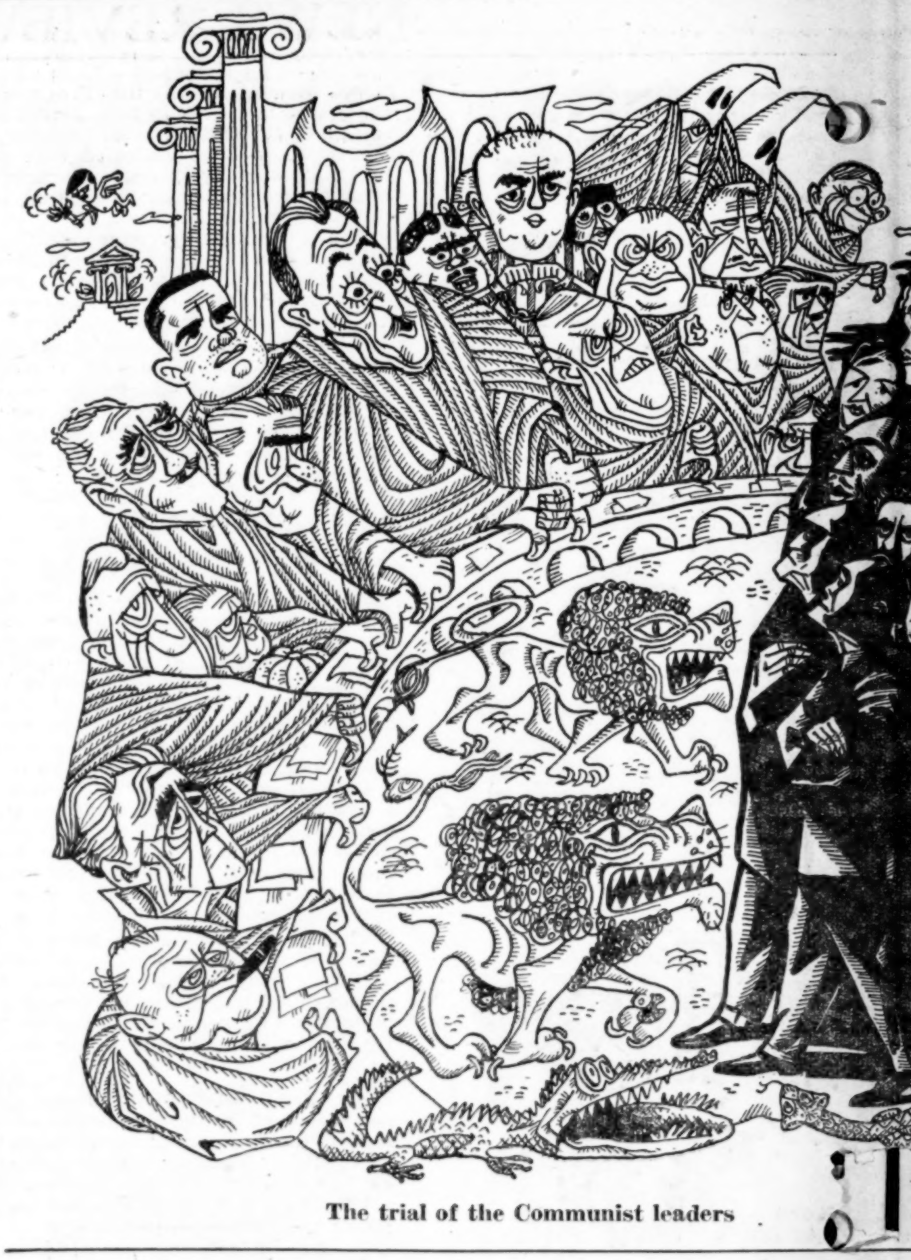
The Strong story

IN THE quiet of a rest home near New York, Anna Louise Strong, author and newspaperwoman, was recuperating from the strenuous weeks that witnessed her arrest and expulsion by the Soviet Government as an "espionage agent" and her air trip back to America.

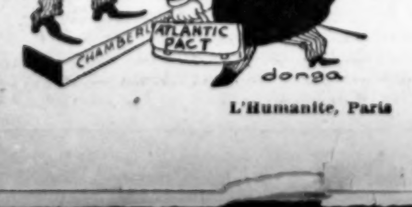
Last Tuesday she was to have appeared before the Federal Grand Jury in New York. Her attorney, O. John Rogge, informed the U. S. attorney that she was too tired and ill to appear. A postponement was granted until she was well enough.

Miss Strong told GUARDIAN that she had received flattering offers to "tell her story." She said: "I lie here with nothing to look at but the beautiful snow outside the windows. [illegible] everything must wait until I hav[illegible]y strength again."

In any case, GUARDIAN readers will be among the first to hear Anna Louise Strong's story.

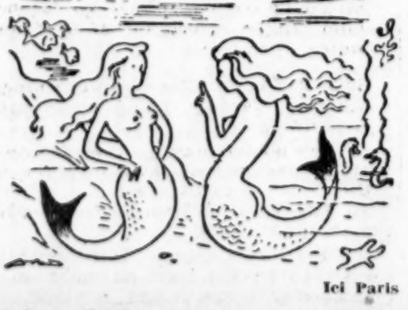


The trial of the Communist leaders


MUNICH MEANS PEACE IN OUR TIME
THE ATLANTIC PACT MEANS PEACE FOR GENERATIONS
MUNICH
CHAMBERLAIN
ATLANTIC PACT
donga

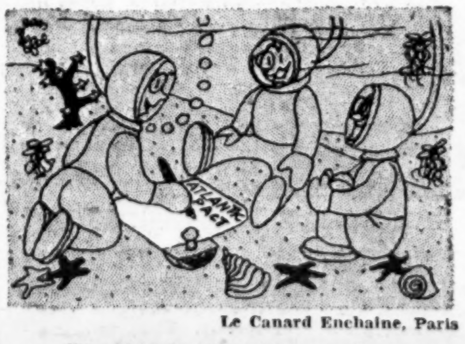
L'Humanite, Paris

THREE FRENCH VIEWS OF THE ATLANTIC PACT



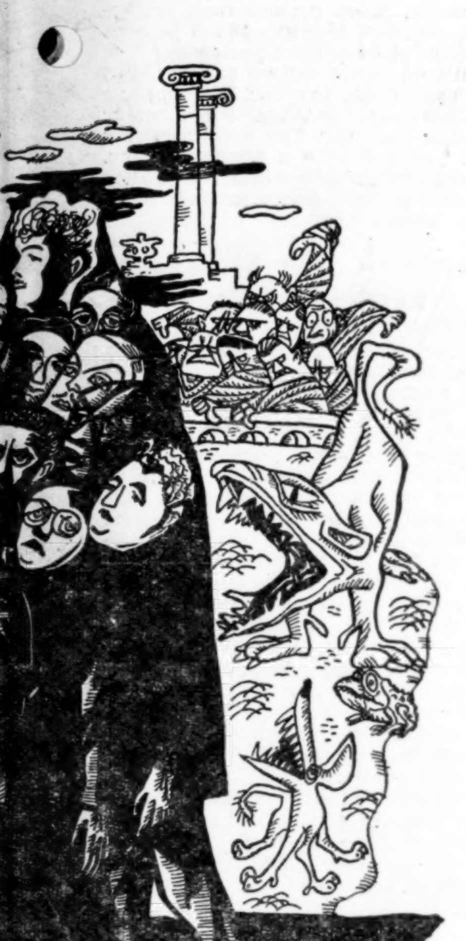
Ici Paris

"I hear they're going to use the Gulf Stream to reheat the cold war."



Le Canard Enchaine, Paris

"So this is why they made pens that write under water."



Korff

WORLD ROUNDUP

United Europe

GUSTS of wind helped scatter leaflets over the Place de la Bourse in Brussels last week. The leaflets said: "Hitler also wanted a United Europe."

In the square 10,000 Belgians had gathered. In front of the stock exchange stood Winston Churchill. In eloquent English and atrocious French he called for a new kind of world organization to replace the United Nations.

Catcalls, boos and whistles came from the crowd. Gendarmes moved swiftly from one trouble spot to another. In all 150 were arrested, including a senator and a deputy, both Communists.

It was a meeting of the European Unity Movement, a society of present and former members of parliament from 23 European nations. Those from East Europe are exiles. The movement grew out of a call from Churchill at the First Congress of Europe at the Hague May.

On the night before the mass meeting on the Place de la Bourse Churchill gave his movement a direction.

TRIED BEFORE. The UN, he said, was becoming "a failure and even a mockery." The cause was "the aggression of the Communist ideology pushed by the armed power of Soviet Russia." The cure was to "reorganize the UN into a collection of regional organizations." It seemed to mean a junking of UN and its replacement by a system of alliances. (Adolf Hitler in **Mein Kampf** advocated an alliance of England, Germany and Italy to combat Russia.)

When Churchill spoke at Fulton, Mo., in 1945 the Truman Doctrine received its first, most resolute expression. After he spoke at Llandudno in Wales in October, the cold war took on a grimmer aspect. Many wondered, as he spoke at Brussels, whether he was not trying to deliver a premature funeral oration of the UN. On March 31 Churchill was to speak at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. The President was to follow him on April 1.

Ready for draft

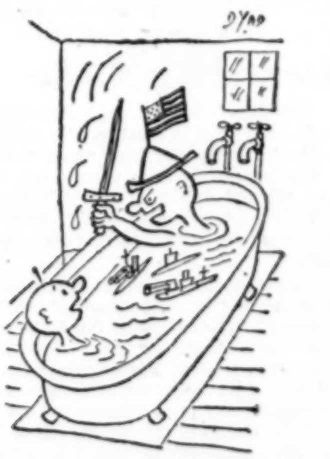
NO SOONER SAID. Already the regional pacts of which Churchill spoke were in the talking stage. Norway was committed to the North Atlantic Pact along with Britain, France, Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands. Italy was about to be nominated. Denmark was ready to fall in line.

Even the American Congress had come around to the State Department's way of thinking. Only the final drafting remained to be done.

British Foreign Minister Ernest Bevin was said to be in interesting but unpublicized conversation with Nadjmeddin Sadak and Constantin Tsaldaris, Foreign Ministers of Turkey and Greece respectively, regarding a Mediterranean Pact which Egypt, Syria and Israel would be asked to join.

A Far Eastern Pact was also in the making. This would include India, Pakistan and Afghanistan. Each of the three pacts would control a sector of the Soviet boundaries. The scheme would far exceed Churchill's cordon sanitaire of 1921 which ringed Russia's European front.

But each alliance would be made up of states almost entirely impotent without U. S. arms and dollars, of which there could not be enough to go around.



Daily Worker, London

"Join the Atlantic Pact or I'll pull the plug 'aht."

If war came . . .

WHAT would happen if the Red Army occupied Paris, Rome, London, New York? Last week those were the questions which men asked of Communists. It began with the burly metal worker Maurice Thorez, Secretary of the French Communist Party. He said: "If the French people, against their will, were involved in a war against the Soviet Union and if the Soviet Army, defending the cause of the people and of socialism, reached our soil, could we expect the workers and people of France to act differently from the workers and people of Poland, Rumania and Yugoslavia?"

Similar answers came from Palmiro Togliatti in Rome, Harry Politt in London, William Z. Foster and Eugene Dennis in New York.

At Fontainebleau

THE ELECTIONS. Thorez' declaration, though not new, was regarded as newsworthy because the Communist Party had won three municipal elections in the last month; and cantonal elections were coming on March 20 and 27.

Thorez was heckled about assisting a foreign power. He replied that at Fontainebleau, 20 minutes from Paris, U. S. and British generals were lounging between conferences on high military strategy.

The women of Paris were scheduled on Sunday night to hold a huge demonstration for peace. The demonstration was forbidden. But the women said they would march anyway, in defiance of police clubs.

The Gaullists moved that Thorez be held for treason; and that Marcel Cachin, Communist and dean of the French Chamber, be deprived of his immunity and forced to stand trial for reprinting Thorez' answer in **Humanité**, which he edits. (Every paper in France, if not the world, had featured the text.) Both proposals were quietly defeated.

Instead the French Sureté rounded up eight French officers charged with conveying information to a foreign power. And there the matter rested, retaining enough heat to last until election day.

Bulgarian trial

BY midweek all the testimony was in at the trial of the 15 Protestant churchmen in Sofia. On Thursday the court recessed to celebrate Bulgaria's Independence Day. On Friday the prosecution summed up its case and asked the death penalty for four of the accused.

All but one of the clergymen had confessed to assisting British and American espionage agents and to black market currency deals. One confessed to playing the black market but not to espionage. Throughout their court confessions there were tears, regrets, and mutual recriminations by the defendants.

Two Roman Catholic bishops in Bulgaria joined what seemed a nationwide condemnation of the accused. In the western world there was no talk of

Continued on following page

Max Werner

The Yugoslav-Cominform rift —and what has resulted

AT THE current Austria peace treaty negotiations in London, one big question relieves the discussion from the boredom of technicalities: the possibility and scope of Soviet-Yugoslav cooperation.

Long before the Cominform split at the Big Four Conference in Moscow in March, 1947, a common Soviet-Yugoslav line on Austria was unofficially mapped. [Yugoslav demands suported by the U.S.S.R. are mainly for indemnities and frontier rectifications.—Ed.] Will this line still be followed?

It is time to shed some light on the real nature and the international consequences of the conflict between Moscow and Belgrade.

NO REHEARSAL. For months the split has been misrepresented in this country as the biggest asset of U. S.-British diplomacy and the mightiest chance for the cleverness and maneuverability of our State Dept.

But at the UN General Assembly in Paris there was spontaneous and unrehearsed cooperation between the Yugoslav delegation and the Slav bloc. Not a single deviation from the Soviet bloc in an important question—whether Berlin or Greece—has shown in the line of Belgrade diplomacy.

THE TESTS. There are two major tests of the intentions of Tito's foreign policy. The first is Greece, the second Albania.

The sharpest speech against the Greek monarchy and U. S. policy in Greece was made in the General Assembly by Yugoslavia's Deputy Foreign Minister, Dr. Ales Bebler. Not only did he assail in most vehement terms the Tsaldaris Government and the application of the Truman Doctrine to Greece. He unreservedly identified the cause of Tito's Yugoslavia with the cause of the Communist uprising in Greece, with the "Democratic Army of Liberation."

The motives for this attitude are extremely earnest. They go far beyond simple consideration of Communist prestige.

SECURITY. For Tito and his Foreign Minister Kardelj, Yugoslav security is involved.

They do not like to have a Greek monarchy for Yugoslav's neighbor in the South, and they will not accept an American foothold on the Southern tip of the Balkan Peninsula.

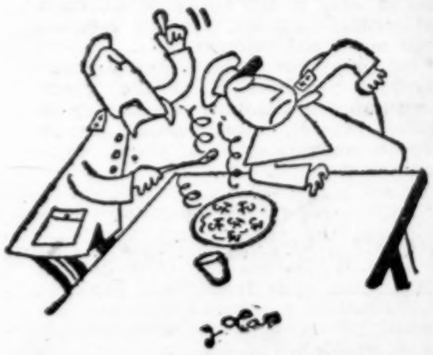
The case of Albania is more complicated, yet the political conclusions are the same.

The Moscow-faithful Albanian government abhors Tito, and Tito loathes General Hoxha of Albania no less heartily. Yet as against Greece and the Western powers Albania stands under Yugoslav protection, and is not isolated. Here old-time Communist ties and Balkan solidarity far outweigh the factional strife of today.

The same security reasons which motivate Yugoslavia **against** the Greek monarchy move her **for** the pro-Soviet Albania. Were Albania put under pressure or menaced, Yugoslavia would defend her little neighbor with the fury of a tigress protecting an independently behaving, disrespectful cub.

NO CHIANG. What follows is that the strife with Moscow means only an inner-family quarrel, with strong solidarity ties against outsiders. As things are, a Yugoslav-American-British common line in Greek and Albania questions is excluded.

Those American journalists who only two years ago claimed Tito as Europe's John Dillinger, and now promote him to Yugoslavia's George Washington, see things in wrong proportions. The position of Yugoslavia inside the Eastern bloc has been changed in that she is no longer a recognized member of that bloc. But the position of Yugoslavia in Europe at large has not been changed.



Le Canard Enchaine, Paris

Stalin: "Tito—now eat your soup!"

For the balance of power between West and East she is still an unofficial part of the Eastern bloc. Through their entire orientation, tradition, ideology, Communist and pro-Slav, the Yugoslav leaders side with the East.

It is therefore factually wrong to count Yugoslavia as neutral today and to consider her as a potential ally of U. S. and Great Britain for tomorrow.

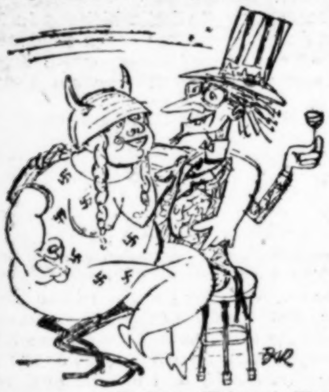
WORLD ROUNDUP

Continued from preceding page.

drugs as Bishop Eugene Bosillcov and Auxiliary Bishop Ivan Romanov were reported saying in Sofia: "We condemn every activity directed against the people's republic and its laws and which goes beyond the limits of religious activity. We especially emphasize that we are assured of enjoying freedom of religious activity. Our clergymen freely perform their religious services."

The Holy Synod of the Bulgarian Orthodox Church (representing most of the people) and the Chief Rabbi of Bulgaria issued similar statements.

In Hungary five lesser lights implicated in the Mindszenty trial repudiated confessions they had signed earlier. They claimed intimidation. One later repudiated his repudiation.



Trybuna Wolnosci, Warsaw

"And you'll also rebuild all my cute little crematoria, won't you, Uncle?"

Murphy home

IN THE spring of 1930, Robert D. Murphy went to Paris as the U. S. Consul. Not long after, Demaree Bess wrote in the **Saturday Evening Post:** "Everybody in Paris loves Bob Murphy." But journalist Varian Fry, also in Paris at the time, said Murphy's relations "with the extreme right in French politics were warm and those he had with republicans correspondingly cool."

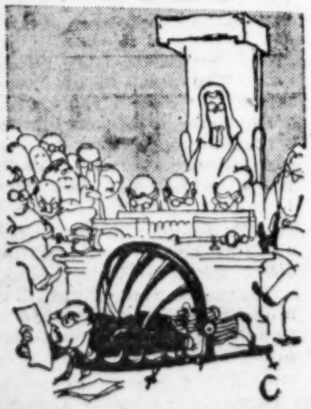
Murphy rose under the tutelage of the fiercely right-wing William Bullitt. During the war he cultivated the friendship of Marshal Petain in France and of Marshal Badoglio in Italy.

Until last Friday he served quietly as political adviser to Gen. Lucius D. Clay, U. S. commander of occupation forces in Germany. On Friday he was coming home with a brand new portfolio as head of the Office of German and Austrian Affairs, a newly created department with wide powers.

Few progressives took heart from Murphy's appointment. While there was an apparent shift from military to civilian control, Murphy had always been the moving spirit of Clay's German policy.

Yoicks!

ACROSS London's Leicester Sq. trooped huntsmen in tally-ho red tooting deer calls from their mounts. In Parliament a shocked member remarked: "The unspeakable pursuing the uneatable."



Daily Express, London

"So hon. members will readily appreciate the cruelty and inhumanity of traps, if hunting is abolished!"

Cause of the demonstration was a bill to ban as "blood sports" the hunting of fox, deer, hare and otter. Feeling ran high. Anthony Greenwood, Labor Party member of Parliament, wrote in **Reynolds News:** "Many people seem to live under the spell of pink coats and hunting horns and evenings in the bar parlour singing 'D'ye Ken John Peel.'" But Greenwood called it "savagery."

On the other hand, the Duke of Beaufort, Master of the Beaufort Hunt, warned that illicit hunts would flourish throughout the land if the bill was passed. And Agriculture Minister Tom Williams, with his eye on the squire vote in coming elections, urged humanitarians among the Labor M.P.s to go easy. The bill was defeated.

San Marino

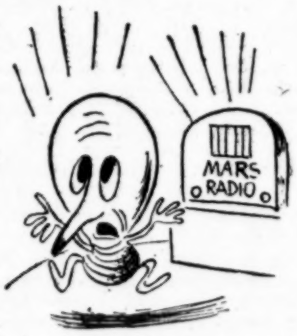
SOCIALISM dug in on a beachhead west of the Rhine last week when the sovereign republic of San Marino (38 square miles) returned to office a coalition of Socialists and Communists. San Marino is a patch half way down the Italian boot.

As the populace went to the polls half the army was mobilized to prevent disorders. (Total armed strength: 50 men.) Two faces were slapped but otherwise all was quiet. The defeated anti-Communist National Alliance blamed their poor showing on the fact that the government had granted tenant farmers 60% of what they grew and landlords 40%.

WORLD WIDE. On the polite front at Lake Success, Russians in the UN's Economic and Social Council countered slave labor charges by proposing that a commission of trade unionists be set up to investigate working conditions throughout the world, including Russia. It did not reach a vote last week.

WHO NEEDS IT? And on the airlift front the Russians had this to think about. Lucky Lady II, a B-50 medium bomber flew around the world in 94 hours and one minute. It was refueled in mid-air four times.

A newsman asked Gen. Curtis E. Le May, chief of the Strategic Command, whether the flight meant "you can use refueling to deliver an A-bomb anywhere in Russia."



New Chronicle, London

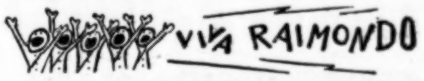
"Help! The men from the earth are coming!"

The General said tactfully: "Let's say, any place that would require an atom bomb." Equally tactful, New York's morning papers thought it best to suppress the reference to Russia.

THROUGHOUT Russia prices on bread, butter, fish, cheese, watches, clothing and vodka were reduced by 10% to 30%. The slashes announced by Premier Stalin reflected increased production. Marketers were not haunted by forebodings of business failures because there was no business to fail. U. S. journalists were busily producing inaccurate statistics comparing the Soviet living standard (rising but still low) with the Western.

Paraguay parade

ON Jan. 30 a microphone was moved into the National Assembly at Asuncion, Paraguay. Through it to the world came sounds of cheering, then the solemn Presidential oath of office taken by Gen. Raimondo Rolon, who up to that moment had been Defense Minister. It was called a bloodless coup. In the Plaza of Heroes young men chanted slogans.



Last week Provisional President Rolon and most of his Colorado Party cabinet (all other parties are outlawed) went to pay their respects at the wake of the Archbishop Juan Sinforiano Bogarin. Pressure of other business necessitated the absence of one cabinet minister, Dr. Felipe Molas Lopez. The one-time dentist who had become Gen. Rolon's Minister of Education took the opportunity presented by the Archbishop's wake to depose Gen. Rolon and declare himself President. In the Plaza of Heroes young men chanted slogans.

VIVA FELIPE

When Dr. Lopez announced his accession to office, the cavalry and artillery divisions stationed outside the town sent word of their approval. Thus the revolution was accomplished without so much as a trumpet call.

COUP UPON COUP. For 12 years Paraguay's people and resources have been wasted in bloody civil war, in palace revolutions and the intrigues of Argentine and U. S. businessmen.

In 1947 the Febrerista Party and its allies on the left were battling at the gates of Asuncion against the forces of the current and much hated Paraguayan dictator Higinio Morinigo. The revolution seemed close to victory then. But while the battle was going on U. S. Secretary of State Marshall was conferring with the Argentine Minister of Foreign Affairs Dr. Juan Bramuglia.

A day after that conference a ship sailed from an Argentine port loaded with arms for Morinigo. Thus reinforced, Morinigo beat back the revolution; the rule of the Coloradistas was resumed, broken only by factional fights and palace coups. There were six coups last year. Last week's was the second in the two months of 1949.

Election in Chile

THE hungry people of Paraguay seemed scarcely moved by the switch in dictators. Chileans, too, were unexcited, though elections were due on Sunday. All 147 seats in the Chamber of Deputies and 20 seats in the Senate were to be filled. The indifference had a history.

In 1946 Gabriel Gonzalez Videla was elected President at the head of a leftwing ticket. (There were 00 Communists in the Chamber and Senate.) Once in office the President turned vigorously rightist, suppressed the Communist Party and abrogated most civil rights. Concentration camps were set up. Many Chileans like the Communist poet, Senator Pablo Neruda, are still in hiding, threatened with arrest on sight.

An Election Qualifying Board was set up; clerks, gathering un-Chilean lists from many sources, to tally up 40,000 persons to be deprived of the vote. When the list appeared there was consternation everywhere. On it were not only liberals but some of the most ardent anti-Communists who had been nominated by political rivals and personal enemies.

Petitions of all kinds reduced the number to 28,000, but such electoral limitations and the measures of reaction which had reached into everybody's life dampened enthusiasm for the ballot.

'Only one party . . .'

WHO CARES. Before the elections the radio at Santiago de Chile was heard to complain: "Since the President executed an about-face in his political orientation and began his campaign to repudiate Communism only one of the major parties has taken a clear stand on this issue. . . .

"The only party that consistently voted in direct opposition to the President's (moves) against the Communist Party has been the Communist Party itself. . . .

"Has the President had just cause to prohibit 30,000 persons from engaging in political activity—30,000 persons who were citizens until yesterday? The Traditional Conservatives say 'yes,' but the Cruzcokistas say 'no.' The Chilean Socialists say 'yes' but the Popular Socialists say 'no.' The Radical Party voted 'yes' but with a few exceptions. Almost all of them, however, regret that they had to do violence to their principles. Maybe that sort of thing explains why there exists a lack of enthusiasm for the coming elections."

Restless stirring

FRUIT OF EMPIRE. Elsewhere Latin Americans were stirring uneasily in the grip of the United Fruit Co. In Guatemala, workers on the banana plantations went on strike to enforce the country's labor code. United Fruit, disdaining the code, fired 10,000. The company, which controls railroads as well as shipping in Guatemala, cut off normal supplies entering the port of Puerto Barrios and proceeded to suppress the "rebellion" by starving the town. Newspapers and radio stations, also owned by the company, assailed the workers and the government.

During the hostilities, venerable Sen. Henry Cabot Lodge (R-Mass.) rose in the U. S. Senate to champion the American company, which he said was being abused by the Guatemalan government. He said that the Guatemalan regime was prejudiced against the United Fruit Co. and was communistic.

The Guatemalan government protested that it was anti-Communist but that the company ought to abide by the laws of the land.

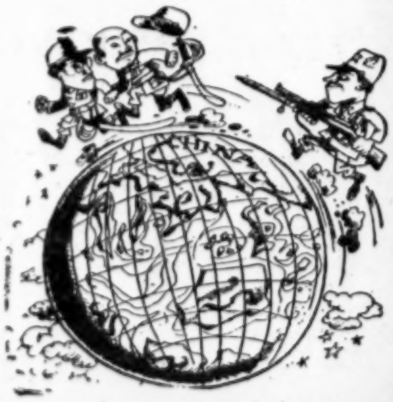
UN-PANAMANIAN. In Panama, too, officials of the United Fruit Empire had their hands full. The law said that 75% of the company's employees in Panama must be Panamanians, but the company found that West Indians would work for less.

Never stumped by legalisms, United Fruit last week was still hiring more West Indians for work in Panama.

Israel in UN

OTHER developments around the world were:

- Throughout Thursday and Friday the Egyptian delegate to the Security Council, Mahmoud Fawzi Bey, filibustered in protest against Israel's application for membership in the UN. From start to finish he managed to avoid saying the word Israel. His land has signed an armistice but is not at peace with the nation he would not name. On Friday Israel was admitted.
- The Dutch last week offered to hold round table discussions with any Indonesians who would consent. Indonesian republicans denounced the move as a device to bypass the UN. In New York on Friday Gen. Carlos P. Rumulo of the Philippines called representatives of 17 nations to a "little New Delhi" conference on Indonesia.
- In Nanking, China, Premier Sun Fo was preparing to head another peace delegation. Communist leader Mao Tse-tung said peace talks would start shortly after March 15.



Vie Nuove

Chiang Kai-shek: "Quiet and keep on going — we'll end by attacking them from the rear!"

THE WORLD

Inside Iran

'Reichstag fire' coup sets off terror reign in U.S. 'colony'

By S. Golbon

TEHERAN

NO requests were received from the U.S. and British Embassies to send observers to the military trial of about 100 Iranian trade unionists and progressive leaders, which opened here last week with the first batch of 14 defendants.

These people are being tried under article 362 of the military code, which makes "whoever is suspected of attempting to commit the crime of lese-majesty (any crime against the king)" subject to the death penalty. The International Assn. of Democratic Lawyers (see p. 3) cabled last week a request to send observers to the trial.

Throughout this country which separates the Soviet Union from the U.S. and British oil empires around the Persian Gulf, military dictatorship and terror have been established while Washington and London were protesting about the treason trials in Hungary and Bulgaria. This coup d'etat was brought off by a Middle Eastern version of the Reichstag Fire technique, during the two weeks following the report that a right-wing newspaper photographer had tried to assassinate the Shah of Iran.

SHOTGUN VACATIONS. The Shah was reported "slightly wounded"; after a few days, reports to British and American news agencies stopped. But within 48 hours of the coup the leftist Tudeh Party had been outlawed and thousands of trade unionists, teachers and government employes had been arrested. In government departments and private and state-owned factories military councils were established, and all suspected of connection with Tudeh were struck off the payrolls.

Military government officers attended parliament sessions and beat up any deputy daring to speak against the coup. Several deputies, advised to "take a vacation," did so.

The coup is a not unexpected climax to the events of 1948—the momentous year in the history of Middle Eastern power politics when the state of Israel was born. The Arab peoples have for the first time realized the underlying weakness of their native rulers. And the Palestine war greatly influenced U.S.-British relations in the Middle East.

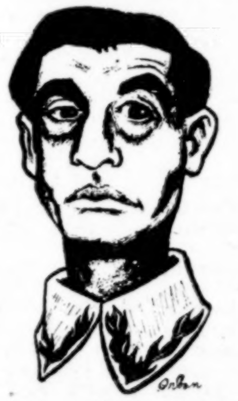
FREEZING OUT BEVIN. After the U.S.'s arrival on the scene in 1942, British and American interests maintained gentlemen's agreements in this area. But the State Dept. saw new possibilities when the Arab League, the Grand Mufti and other British stooges made such a poor showing.

Last December the State Dept. told British Foreign Secretary Bevin to withdraw his threats of carrying out British "treaty commitments" to the Arab states. When Secretary of State Acheson began calling in the Arab ambassadors for briefings on Palestine, instead of asking Bevin to do it, everyone here knew that a new era had started. America was in business on her own in the oil-rich Middle East.

That Teheran should become the scene of the first Latin-American-style coup d'etat in the Middle East was not an accident. Iran has the largest oil reserves in the whole Middle East, as well as the only progressive mass party of the area, the Tudeh.

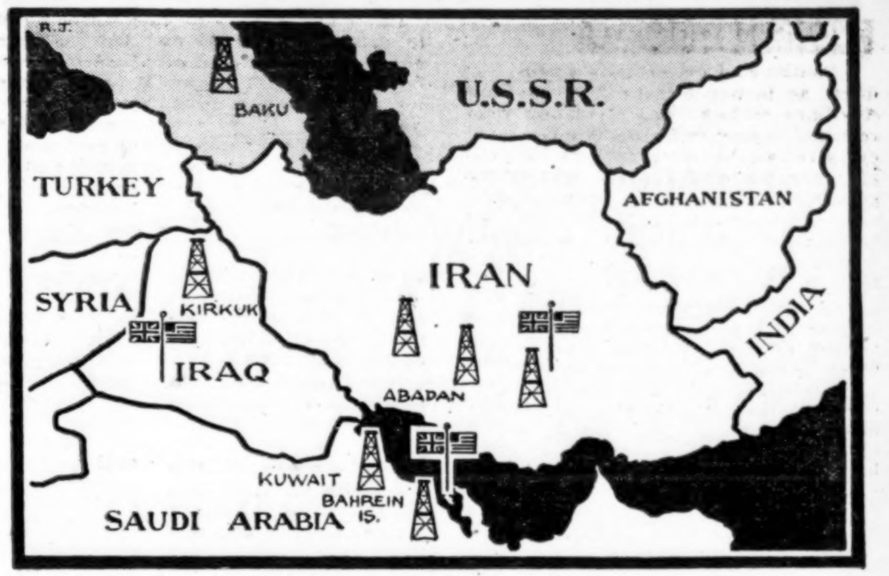
(Even the London **Times** admitted that in a free election Tudeh could win a great majority of votes).

KREMLIN PLOT. Iran has also been the main stronghold of American influence in the Middle East ever since the Persian Gulf Command erected its headquarters in Teheran early in the last war. The Iranian military establishment has been American-advised during the last six years. More recently the Departments of Health, Education and Agriculture, as well as the so-called "commission for the seven year plan" covering the whole economic life of the country, have been placed under control of U.S. advisers.



The Shah—"slightly wounded"

This unfortunate country happens to be one of the three "strategic trouble spots" in the eyes of the World-War-III-conscious, Loy Henderson school of political thought. It seems that despite Henderson's removal from the State Department last year (he is now U.S. Ambassador to India), this continues to be the dominant theme of the State Department's geopolitics.



The stake in the Middle East — oil.

Last month, when George Allen, former U.S. Ambassador in Iran, paid an "informal" visit to this capital, he told a group of friends and favorite newsmen at an off-the-record conference that the whole Berlin blockade was a diversionary tactic of the Kremlin's to prepare the ground for a Soviet push to the Persian Gulf.

THE TREATMENT. Whether that interview had any direct connection with the coup is a matter of conjecture. But it is now known (thanks in part to the awkward way in which things were handled by the authorities themselves):

- That the assassination was engineered by the pro-American Generals' clique.
- That the would-be assassin was a triggerman in the private terroristic outfit of the press magnate Abbass Mas'udi, editor of the official newspaper **Ettelaat**.
- That the assassin was shot to death after he was disarmed by the chief of police and two military officers who were also in the plot.
- That Teheran's Attorney-General and the legal physician were forced at gun-point to sign an affidavit stating that the "assailant died from fist blows on the head and not from the shots in the thigh and the groin."

These facts are now public property. But what is important to note is the fact that a coup was in order at this particular moment.

The existing system of constantly shifting cabinets had reached unprecedented heights of weakness and corruption during recent weeks. This made it impossible for the tottering regime of the pro-British Premier Saed—itself entangled in a $100,000,000 foreign exchange scandal and unpopular oil negotiations with the Anglo-Iranian Oil Co.—to make way for one more of those "new" governments in which the same men remain but simply change seats.

NO MORE SMOOTHIES. At the same time the undercover Anglo-American rivalry for control of the country was showing more and more on the surface. The U.S. advisers to the War and Gendarmerie Departments had consolidated their positions with a $70,000,000 military loan which they helped secure from Washington. They could no longer tolerate the leave-it-to-the-experts attitude of the British "smoothies" in Iran. They were clamoring for a "strong man."

For many months the pro-British Iranian cabinets had been engaged in negotiations with the Anglo-Iranian Oil Co. By the beginning of February they were on the verge of signing a new contract increasing the area of the company's concessions.

For the cure

TEHERAN

ABBAS MAS'UDI, editor of the official newspaper **Ettelaat**, has left Teheran by plane for a "cure and rest" visit in Switzerland. This trip came as a climax to persistent accusations—supported by documents—by the underground press that he was the actual organizer of the assassination.

Mas'udi is an old hand at political murders. His arraignment a few years ago for the assassination of the Zoroastrian deputy Arbab Keykhosrow was shelved by the personal intervention of the Shah himself.

But as early as March 1947, Dr. Pirnia, chief of the Iranian Petroleum Administration, who at that time was on a mission in the U.S. for the pro-American regime of Premier Qavam, was told by the Standard Oil of California and the Texas Company that they were interested in the same area.

Shop to ski trail

$12-a-week vacations for the workers

SPINDLERUV MLYN,
Czechoslovakia

By George Wheeler

"ONE of our big problems," said Rezek, cultural officer of ROH (Czech trade unions), to the visiting western journalists at this winter-sport center, "is teaching the workers to ski."

The journalists seemed a bit startled and looked at him sharply.

"You see," Rezek continued, "the workers don't associate snow with fun. They think of wet feet and cold tools and misery."

These sunny slopes are a good place to persuade workers to have fun. Picture a combined government-CIO program of persuading Harlan miners to enjoy Lake Placid, and you will have what is going on here.

Darting past the pine trees and the mountain hotels, once a preserve for the privileged, come papa and older children on skis, mama and the baby on a sled. If papa has been an "exemplary worker" chosen by his factory committee, his vacation is free. Otherwise the cost is $12 for the whole week including train fare.

SKI INTERNATIONAL. The journalists came to see the 8th University World Winter Games. The games brought thousands of workers and students together to cheer the brilliant Czech figure-skating champion Dasha Lerchova, the graceful Hungarian skating pair Kekessy-Kiraly, the Polish slalom winner Marusarz, and distinguished French, Italian and Bulgarian contestants.

In the Workers' Night Club in the Hotel Windsor, and in the big hotel dining rooms, students and workers and worker-students met after skiing hours for **hratky** (songs and dances) and listened to a National Theater string quartet and a Conservatory student chorus singing in Czech, Slovak, English, French, Hebrew and Italian.

"ONLY 500,000." The look on the cultural officer's face as he showed all this to the western journalists said: "Now **here** is something no one can misinterpret or ignore."

But one of the journalists was troubled. He said: "You say you have plans for 500,000 trade unionists and their families to get these vacations this year. But you have 3,000,000 members—what about the other 2,500,000?"

There are only 17 first-class hotels at Spindleruv Mlyn, and ROH has all of them—plus 300 more throughout the country.

Sooner than the hecklers think they will reach the target of free or nearly free vacations for all.

Bulgaria today

A bustling industrial nation emerges out of a semi-colonial past

By Ruth Karpf

A contributor to the Toronto Star *and former correspondent of the N.Y.* Star *gives her impressions of the Balkan "new democracy" that is now taking the brunt of U. S. attacks, following the indictment of Bulgarian priests for black-marketing and espionage.*

SOFIA

THE first thing that really struck me in Sofia was the clothesrack in the corridor of the Diplomatic Club where I went to lunch the day I arrived. It had officers' caps of the U. S., British, U.S.S.R., Yugoslav, Bulgarian, Italian and French armies, neatly hung up on hooks alongside each other. In one of the rooms of the club, the owners of the caps were having their monthly luncheon together. That was more international camaraderie than I had seen in a long time.

Except for one Russian officer at the luncheon—and he was the Military Attache of the U.S.S.R. Embassy—I did not see a single Soviet soldier in either Sofia or the country, throughout my four weeks' stay.

In none of the other Slav countries is the "big brother" attitude to Russia as deeply rooted and widely felt as it is in Bulgaria. It has historical roots here. From the statue on Sofia's main square of Czar Alexander II, who helped the Bulgarians in their war of independence against the Turks, to the city's first trolley busses —U.S.S.R. imports with a big red star on top—runs a direct emotional line.

UP FROM SERVITUDE. Before the war, over two thirds of Bulgaria's total trade was monopolized by Germany. Last year the U.S.S.R. took 50% of Bulgaria's exports and supplied 60% of her imports. But this percentage is gradually decreasing with the expansion of Bulgaria's trade relations with the new democracies. Bulgaria has signed pacts of friendship with all of them, including Yugoslavia.

The Bulgarians are at the same time doing all they can to stimulate exchange of goods with the west. Despite the obvious political difficulties, they have already managed to double their pre-war trade with Belgium, France, Britain and the U. S., and would like to expand it further still.

All in all, Bulgaria's re-geared economy is working out. She is emerging from the semi-colonial agrarian state in which German economic imperialism kept her before the war, and is beginning to industrialize. Both industrial and consumer goods "made in Bulgaria" are beginning to appear in the cities and villages.

As people, the Bulgarians are about half-way between their sober, practical Czech fellow-Slavs and the dynamic and tough Yugoslavs. Sofia on a Sunday night, with all the Sofiotes out in the Corso that leads to the city's park and its lovely rose gardens, is a spirited and relaxed picture. Girls are pretty, as well turned out as rationing and shortages permit, and surprisingly well dressed. Not many foreign publications are available in Sofia, but **Vogue** and **Mademoiselle** are, and the girls copy their dresses from the covers and the ads. So the new look did find its way to Sofia.

Sofia is a particularly flower-conscious city too. Women wear flowers in their hair; there are flowers in rooms and on the desks of offices, including the staid old Foreign Office and tough new Ministry of the Interior. Even men wear flowers in Sofia—sometimes in their buttonholes as we do, and sometimes between their teeth.

NO CURTAINS. At the official gala Reception given by Premier Dimitrov for the Hungarian delegation which came to sign the friendship pact between the two countries, he used the former King's Guards in their old-fashioned splendor, and both the receiving line and most of the guests were in formal clothes. But mixed with the ranks of the Diplomatic Corps and the Ministers were two dozen "Heroes of Labor" in their overalls, and the party broke up with Premier Dimitrov himself leading a horo, the really wild unrestrained Bulgarian national folk dance.

Last word on Sofia: the press service is excellent. It's tough for correspondents to get into Bulgaria, but once you are there, no obstacles are put in your way, and all facilities are provided.

Of about 20 places and people I asked to see, I was turned down on only one. There is no censorship for foreign correspondents, and, except for a 20-mile strip along the Greek and Turkish borders, there are no restrictions on travel. I covered the country both with an official guide and on my own.

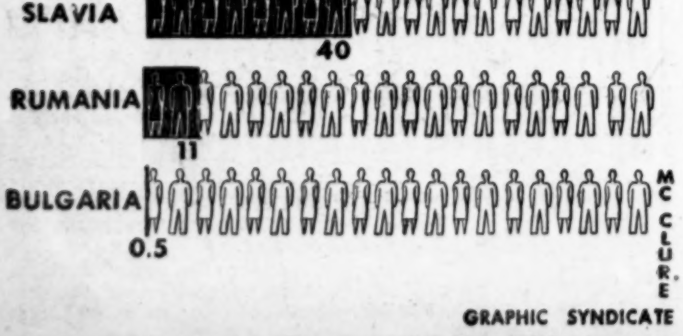
Attar of Standard Oil

CHIEF evidence of the U.S. interest in Bulgaria before its economy was socialized was the shiny luxurious Standard Oil Building near the center of Sofia. The building was badly bombed during the war but expertly reconstructed to house the U. S. Military Mission in 1945-46. Standard Oil was mainly concerned with selling its products in Bulgaria.

Otherwise the U. S. has been primarily interested in three enterprises: the rose-oil industry, tobacco, and missionaries. Bulgaria has a virtual world monopoly on the production of attar of roses, the base for most perfumes. Bulgarian tobacco, along with Turkish, has provided the U. S. with mixture grades for the cigarette industry.

The American College at Sofia and the American School for Girls at Lovetch were among the enterprises of U. S. missionaries, who have been active in the country since the last century.

CATHOLICS IN EASTERN EUROPE



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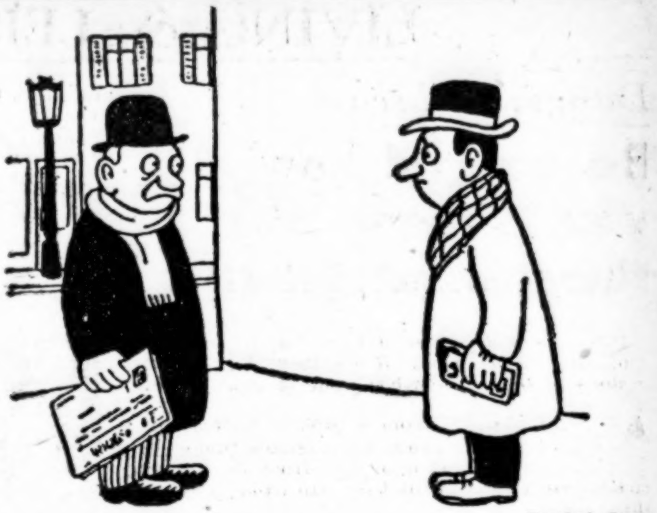


Combat, Paris

"You'll see—we're entering a period of 'cold peace'."

Under the Marshall Plan

France is headed right into depression

By Stanley Karnow

PARIS

THE French have picked an old phrase out of the mothballs and stuck it into the headlines: "Starvation in the midst of plenty."

As a lot of open-eyed observers had seen in their economic crystal balls, France was in for trouble. The French agricultural market collapsed. The value of gold fell headlong. The price of textiles started dropping. And people began to realize that France was producing more than its population was consuming.

Out in the country, farmers were arriving at rural markets to find their cows suddenly worth 20,000 francs less — $66 on the legal exchange—than the previous day's prices. The asking price for a pig was 11,000 francs; the selling price was 7,000. Eggs, which were being sold two weeks ago for 240 francs (75 cents) a dozen, were going begging last week at a penny apiece.

DUMPING GOLD. The buying stoppage was being felt all along the line. Farmers' orders for tractors and farm machinery were being canceled. Gold (the farmers are estimated to have been hoarding almost two-thirds of France's gold) was dumped on the Paris stock exchange.

It is a strange paradox that a country on the needy list should be suffering from overproduction, but the most important of the many answers to the problem is the simplest one.

The majority of France's citizens just haven't got the money to buy all the things French industry and agriculture have been turning out.

Last year, the cost of living in France went up almost 60% while wages rose only 15%.

In addition, France has been forced to spend her dollar credits as the Marshall plan administrators direct, and her markets have become glutted even more with plentiful items like wheat and textiles.

NOWHERE TO EXPORT. For a while, France's surplus production was being channeled into the black market, where the newly-enriched were gorging themselves in unlimited and conspicuous consumption. But now, even their luxurious appetites have been surfeited.

France is recovering, says the Economic Cooperation Administration. "Recovery" doesn't mean much unless **everyone** is recovering.

French workers, who were not long ago subsisting on a diet of bread and potatoes, are now being threatened with unemployment.

In what businessmen like to call "normal times," the obvious answer to overproduction is export. That suggestion now only meets with the pointed question: "Export where?"

Germany, under American aegis, has become France's biggest competitor. England imports from her dominions. Belgium is satisfied. Italy is too poor.

LET THE PEOPLE BUY. What's the answer?

"Give Frenchmen back their purchasing power," says Marcel Fourrier, columnist for **Libération.** "France now consumes about one-third of what she did before the war. That's the trouble.

"You want prosperity in France?" he continued. "Then give the French the means of nourishing themselves better, of buying new clothes, of making their homes more comfortable, of going out more often, of entertaining themselves a bit.

"Raise salaries or cut corporation profits, and you break the economic chains."

The conservative French economist, Jacques Gascuel, sat back and commented drily: "We're going to have a depression here—if we don't have one already."

Beer? Try a coke

HERE are some of the things the Marshall Plan is doing to the French people, according to a report from Marseilles:

- **Shipping:** Cut 30% in the last quarter of 1948, in this greatest French port. Imports down 148,000 tons; exports down 189,000 tons.
- **Shipbuilding:** Down 100,000 tons in Marseille during the same period.
- **Oil Refining:** Plans for a refinery at Port de Bouc abandoned to prevent French competition with U. S. oil interests in Middle East.
- **Textiles:** Woolen industry hard hit by large importation of U. S. uniforms for French army. Marshall Plan directive cut off east European cocoon sources for silk industry, closing down two major silk factories.
- **Brewing:** Beer production cut 20% through Marshall Plan dumping of Coca-Cola.
- **Perfume:** 50% of Marseille perfumery industry workers unemployed due to importation of U. S. perfumes.

LIVING & LEISURE

Danger of disease

Be careful how you dispose of fluorescent tubes

The second issue of GUARDIAN (Oct. 25, 1948) warned of the dangers in disposing of fluorescent tubes. Since then, the full story of the hazards has come to light.

AN accidental cut from a broken fluorescent light tube can cause a malignant tumor.

Accidental breathing of dust from the inside coating of a fluorescent tube can cause a fatal ilness.

The danger is particularly acute for children, who consider discarded fluorescent tubes fascinating play objects. In the July, 1948, issue of the Journal of Industrial Medicine and Toxicology is the story of a small boy who used an old tube for a bat. When it shattered, particles of glass cut the side of his face and neck. He was given immediate medical attention, but three months later a large cancerous growth on his face had to be removed by surgery. A second operation was required two months later.

DEATH BY INHALING. Another medical journal reports the case of Miss W. O., a young employee of the Owens-Illinois Glass Co., who in 1947 received a small cut from a piece of fluorescent tubing. A company nurse applied ordinary aid treatment but months later the girl was hospitalized for the removal of a cancerous mass of tissue caused by the cut.

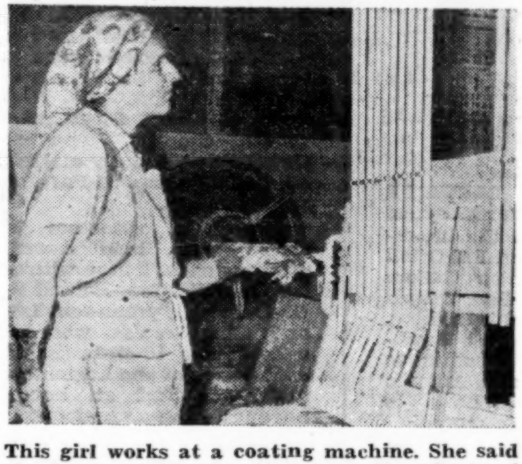
A number of deaths caused by inhaling the material used to coat the inside of fluorescent tubes have been reported in medical journals.

AGAINST PUBLICITY. Recently some large industrial concerns have posted warnings to their own personnel concerning thir newly-discovered danger. But no effort has been made to warn the general public. In fact, there seems to be an effort to prevent warnings from being publicized.

One large company, the Pan American Petroleum & Transport Co., through its safety department, sent a warning dated Nov. 4, 1948, to all its executives. But the communication bore this restriction: "Not To Be Posted on Bulletin Boards."

The insurance department of the Consolidated Edison Co. of New York on Dec. 16, 1948, issued a two-page warning to its department heads, which included these rules for the disposal of burned-out fluorescent tubes:

- Never place them where they might be picked up by children.
- Do not place them in an incinerator; the resulting fumes are hazardous.
- For best all-around safety in disposal, tubes should be broken in a tightly-woven sack. preferably under water. The thoroughly wetted down particles can then go the way of other refuse.
- Handle all tubes with care. And if you accidentally cut yourself with a broken tube, seek medical attention promptly, no matter how superficial the wound. And tell your doctor what caused it.



This girl works at a coating machine. She said she knew a girl who died from the effects of material being handled.

RADIO REPORT

A ringside seat on history

This column will attempt to serve as a forum for listeners' views, to report on trends in radio and television, to spotlight worthwhile programs and to censure the trite and tawdry, the mediocre and the vicious.

By John Norton

"DON'T look a gift horse in the mouth" is an old maxim. Because most of us think that what comes out of the loud-speaker is free—a gift from networks and sponsors—we don't listen with a critical ear.

The fact is that we **do** pay for radio. Listeners spend far more for their sets, repairs and electricity than advertisers do for time and talent. And even what the soap, cigarette and cereal manufacturers contribute eventually comes out of the consumer's pocket. So the dialer has the right to shout lustily when the programs are not to his liking.

HISTORY AT HOME. This week we'd like to call your attention to **You Are There,** (CBS, Sundays, 2:30 EST). This is an unusual show which dramatizes important events of history, ancient and modern, as though they are happening at the time of the broadcast. It uses the familiar techniques of radio news coverage—commentators, tickers in the background, remote pickups and interviews with political leaders. The historical figures are played by some of radio's best actors. The newscasters and commentators are familiar names: Quincey Howe, Ken Roberts, John Daley and Don Hollenbeck.

A staff of researchers gathers all available information and turns it over to writers who handle the scripts. The program is supervised by Robert Louis Shayon, CBS producer-director.

You Are There lifts the curtain of centuries on the signing of the Magna Carta, the Declaration of Independence, the battle of the Monitor and the Merrimac, the assassination of Julius Caesar.

THE IMPEACHMENT. The Feb. 27 show turned back the clock to May 16, 1868, when President Andrew Johnson was being impeached. Newscaster Daley in the Capitol's radio room summarized the charges against Johnson, whose policy was frustrating the emancipation of the Negro.

Commentator Howe spoke with Radical Republican senators, who controlled almost two-thirds of the Senate but needed to win over one or two doubtful votes.

When Ken Roberts asked Thaddeus Stevens, majority leader: "Do you think the President will be impeached?" Stevens retorted, "What President? Do you mean Johnson, the man who is performing the functions of President? He came into the Presidency by the side door, because of Lincoln's assassination, and he shall leave by the back door of shame!"

Although the listener knows the outcome, the program maintains a suspense that keeps you on edge. This is real drama, more exciting and provocative than the hoked-up blood-and-thunder of the whodunits.

Perhaps radio can be franker discussing history in the past than it is with history in the making. **You Are There** is certainly more realistic and objective than most documentaries on present-day problems. Nevertheless, yesterday's struggles are signposts for today and the issues on this CBS program will have a living impact for thoughtful persons.

DOLLAR STRETCHER

Washing, framing, eating

CHEAPER THAN SOAP. Soaps have come down in price in recent months, but the least expensive product for washing dishes and other household jobs is still trisodium phosphate. You need only a tablespoonful to a gallon of water. TSP really makes dishwashing easier too; it doesn't leave a film that requires extra rinsing to remove, as soap does.

You can buy TSP under various brand names (**Oakite** is just TSP), but it's even less expensive bought under its own name. Some stores (most consumer cooperatives) sell trisodium phosphate under its own name.

PICTURE FRAME KITS. A Chicago firm is now offering a kit that contains all the materials you need to make your own picture frames. Write G. E. Watson Co., 164 W. Lake St., for its price list of prefabricated sections for frames. If you do your own framing, one authority recommends generously-sized mats and simple frames for best effect—and economy.

MOST NUTRITIVE FOODS. The U. S. Agriculture Dept. lists these foods as the least expensive sources for the most nutrients: white potatoes, whole wheat bread, rolled oats, beef and pig liver, pea beans and rutabagas. Next least expensive are carrots by the pound, spinach, and milk, both fresh and evaporated. Next group includes dried prunes, canned peas, canned tomato juice, frozen spinach, molasses and pork chops.

Doesn't mean you can eat only these foods for balanced nutrition; but you can put them among your first choices.

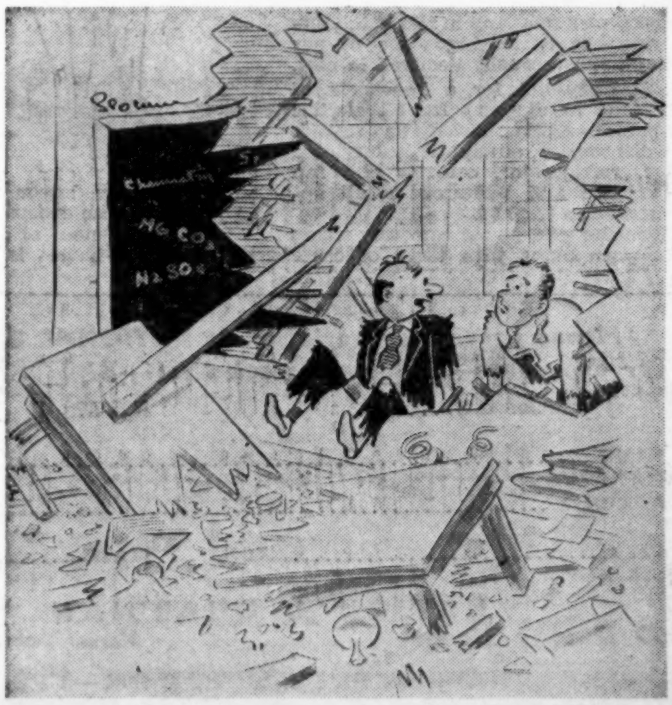
BUYING EGGS. Price of eggs is lower—and that gives us a springboard to talk about one of our favorite subjects—eggs. Picked up a few tips so we're passing them on to you.

Avoid buying eggs that stand on counters or are used in ad displays. An egg can lose as much freshness out of the refrigerator in three days as in the refrigerator in two weeks. Eggs are graded for size. Be sure you are getting what you pay for. You can do that by buying eggs put up in properly labeled cartons.

"Selected" and "best" and "fresh country eggs" sound pretty but they mean nothing. Go by the U.S. grade labels which specify: "U.S. Grade A, Extra Large," or "U.S. Grade AA Large" or "U.S. Grade B Medium," etc.

And of course you know the gag about "new laid eggs"—the ones the grocer just laid on the counter. Ask the hen, she knows.

LOW-GRADE FLOORCOVERING. The market is being flooded with low-grade felt-base floorcovering (commonly and inaccurately known as "floor oilcloth") from the Netherlands and England. The Dutch product, which sells for about 25 cents a square yard less than standard-quality U. S.-made felt base, is of particularly poor quality. It is a thinner gauge than most U. S. felt base, and merchants handling it report that it loses the clarity of its colors rather quickly. You can tell the Dutch floorcovering by its mottled surface which feels rough to the touch and incidentally catches dirt and makes the floor harder to clean.



Does that answer your question, Harris?

• Round the Nation with the Guardian By-liners •

Indiana

Evert G. Field—fighter for progress

INDIANAPOLIS

EVERT G. FIELD, 34, auto worker and Progressive Party leader, was buried Feb. 17 at Deputy, Ind.

Field, former vice-chairman of the Marion County (Indianapolis) Progressive Party, was a candidate last fall for state representative on the Progressive ticket.

He had entered three grievances as to the unsafe conditions of the electric multitple-welding machine on which he worked at the Chevrolet plant here. The final one was entered 15 minutes before the explosion that killed him. All the grievances were ignored.

On Feb. 11 a small fire broke out at the machine. Field called to a foreman who seized a liquid extinguisher and turned it on the blaze. The machine exploded, coating Field with burning oil from the waist up. He was taken to St. Vincent's hospital, where he died four days later.

He had worked at the Chevrolet plant since 1939, with three years out for Army Service.

He was known as one of the most active rank-and-file leaders in the union and one of the Progressive Party's most loyal workers.

He leaves a widow, twins under two and another child of five months.

Chevrolet workers said that the day Field died, another man was ordered to operate his machine. When he refused, he was reportedly given a three-day layoff.

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Washington

Public power and the cost of living

By Mary Salvus

SEATTLE

ALL during the inflationary period, Seattle has for the most part had the dubious honor of having the highest cost of living of any large city.

Fuel oil has risen from 7 to 14 cents a gallon; bread from 15 to 22 a 1½ pound loaf; rent on new units has doubled. The only cost of living item which has not risen in price is electricity, which in this town is produced by City Light, the oldest publicly owned power company in the U. S. Considering the decreasing value of our money it has actually declined in cost.

A January bill for a household of four (one in diapers) for all electric equipment—lights, automatic washer and dishwasher, automatic water tank, range, refrigerator, controls and fan on furnace and numerous small appliances—ran to $7.94.

Since the war, power company wages have risen along with those of other industries in the area, and the company has had an extensiive expansion program going, including better customer service and new dams.

Incidentally, although it is not called taxes, City Light pays an equivalent amount into the state treasury. It also has excellent credit rating.

Can private industry equal this record?

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New Mexico

24 groups rally for minority rights

By R. L. Chambers

SANTA FE

THREE of New Mexico's four members of Congress have given the brush-off to groups fighting for an FEPC bill and civil rights legislation now before the state legislature. Only Sen. Dennis Chavez came through with his backing. Sen. Clinton Anderson, former Secretary of Agriculture, didn't bother to reply. Reps. John Miles and Antonio Fernandez said they would have "to study" the FEPC bill a little more.

In New Mexico itself, the fight goes on. Main backing comes from the Spanish-speaking people of the state who, until 10 years ago, were the majority group. However, in recent years, a wholesale emigration from Texas and other southern states has upset the balance and brought with it the prejudices in which the South is steeped.

Negro groups are supporting the battle, as is the Catholic Church, Protestant and Jewish groups, labor, educational, women's and veterans groups. All told, two dozen organizations have banded together in the largest grass roots movement in the state's history.

Observers give the FEPC bill an even chance in the legislature.

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Chicago dateline

By Rod C. Holmgren

CHICAGO

PUBLIC hearings over the six "anti-Communist" bills introduced in the State Legislature by Sen. Paul Broyles (GUARDIAN, Feb. 28) lasted less than two hours. More than 400 delegates came to protest, representing the American Civil Liberties Union, Civil Rights Congress, United Electrical Workers (CIO), Chicago Republican Club, CIO Illinois Industrial Union Council, the Progressive Party and other organizations.

Opposition witnesses who were heard were held down to five minutes each. Three witnesses spoke for the bills. Sen, Roland V. Libonati (D-Chicago), prominent Legionnaire, and Sen. Broyles, who last month addressed a 10-state "Americanism" conference of the Legion at Indianapolis, got half an hour each to harangue the committee.

NO TIME WASTED. A University of Chicago Baptist divinity student said: "My church would be suspect under these bills because it has initiated a drive for negotiations between the U. S. and Russia."

The measures were unanimously approved by the committee in a 20-minute executive session after the hearing. Word that they were already on their way to the Senate floor came from the committee room before the delegates had left the capitol rotunda.

One of the measures would force every teacher or professor in a publicly-operated school to sign a loyalty oath. Another provides that any organization with a membership of 20 or more and requiring an oath for membership must register with the state and file membership lists.

But Senator Broyles pointed significantly to S. B. 156 (the fourth in the list of six bills) during the course of his tirade before the Judiciary Committee. "This is the one," he said.

The bill to which he referred would jail for one to five years anyone who even attended a meeting of a "communist front" organization.

SCHOOL CRISIS. Since Adlai Stevenson, who promised to do something about the Chicago school situation, was elected as Illinois' new "reform" Governor, campaigners for better schools have been whittling down their hopes.

Minimum need of the state school system for the next two-year period is $144,000,000.

A "compromise" figure of $123,000,000 is embodied in a bill under consideration by the budgetary commission.

The price that will probably have to be paid even to get this insufficient appropriation is a 1% increase in the sales tax, which already adds 2% to every retail purchase.

The Teachers Union and Ciitizens School Committee have hinted strongly their willingness to favor the tax boost. President John Fewkes of the Chicago Teachers Union said he would support it "as a last resort," because the schools are vital to strengthen American ideology to combat the threat of Russian ideology.

Mrs. Henry Mulberry of the Chicago Board of Education said the added help would "still leave us with a large backlog of unmet needs." It is not enough to allow for salary increases to overworked and underpaid teachers.

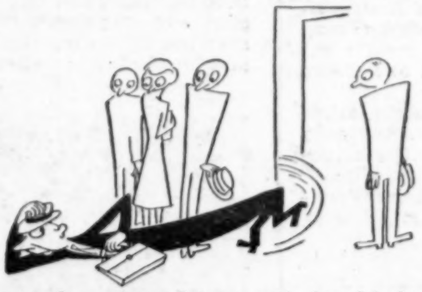
New York

Teachers chase witches upstate

By Tad Sadowski

NEW YORK CITY

HUNDREDS of teachers, all members of Teachers Union (UPW, CIO), assigned themselves after-school work and went to see their Albany legislators on Feb. 21. Seeking decent living standards, increased aid to education, an end to witchhunts, the educators got an elementary lesson not taught in civics texts—the runaround.



The experience of a group from Greenwich Village is typical. They knocked on the door of Sen. MacNeil Mitchell's (R-B'klyn) office. A woman came out to say that the Senator and his secretary were out and not expected back. As the teachers turned away Mitchell's lawyer opened the office and received the visitors. He countered their demands with ambiguous questions on taxes. When a woman came out of the inner office obviously having concluded a talk with Mitchell, the teachers repeated their demand for an interview.

The lawyer stepped in to consult the Senator, carefully closing the door after him.

Later Mitchell appeared. He smiled nervously, said "Glad to see all of you" and moved toward the entrance. Bombarded by descriptions of school inadequacies in his district, his smile vanished. Mumbling vaguely about being for one of the proposals, for education etc., he disappeared down the corridor.

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Ohio

Socialized medicine and dying press

By George F. Curry

MARTIN'S FERRY

UNDER the headline "Aid to the Aged Raises Hospital Death Rate," a news item appeared in the Feb. 20 Wheeling (W. Va.) **News-Register.** It should bring much comfort, and be of great interest, to the AMA and other opponents of "socialized medicine."

Commenting on a recent report of the superintendent of the Martin's Ferry hospital, the story informs readers that the "reason for the exceptional [death] rate is the new state welfare program which enabled many aged people to get treatment who under previous conditions could not have afforded hospital care. Many of those were hospitalized almost on their deathbed."

What would have happened to those "indigent aged" had it not been for "the new state welfare program?" What happens to those who are "indigent," cannot afford hospital care, and are ineligible for the benefits of the new state welfare program?

If "socialized medicine" is going to provide medical, hospital, and surgical services for those who can't otherwise afford them, it seems it is not wanted for the sole excuse (not reason) that it would be "socialistic," and would deprive the aged of their "freedom" to die without benefit of those services.

Horsefeathers! Also bushwa and fizzacaboopwa!

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Pennsylvania

Almost the meanest man in the world

By Herman Shifren

PLYMOUTH

MEMBERS of the Parent-Teachers Assn. of the Plymouth Consolidated School charged vile discrimination against Negro children by Art Schlagel Sr., proprietor of Arts Skateland, Ridge Pike, south of Norristown.

Several Negro pupils of the school were turned away, "with tears in their eyes," from admittance to an eighth grade skating party at the rink last Saturday night.

Tickets for the skating party had been sold at the school to both white and Negro children.

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